

## Supplementary Information

### Pathway discovery and engineering for cleavage of a $\beta$ -1 lignin-derived biaryl compound

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## Supplemental Tables.

**Table S1. DNA sequences of oligonucleotides and gBlocks used in this study.**

Name	Sequence (5' → 3')	Purpose/Desc.
NaRS14230	GGTCGACCTCCTCAAGCTGGGCACTTTTCATCGGCACGCCTATGCGCGAGGGCGTGGCCGACCCGATGG GACTGACAGCCACCGATCTCAGGATCGTCTTGGCCCTCGGCGGCGAGGGCGAACTGGCCGGCCACGA ACTATCGGATATCATGGGCCTTCCGCCGATGAACGTCAGCCGCGCCATCGCCGCGCTGACGACGCGGG GGTTGGTCGAGCCGGGCTCGACCGCTCGAACC GCCCGCAAGCCCGTCCGCTCTCAGCGCGGAAGG CCAGCGCCTCTTCGCGCAGACGATCCCGGCCATGGCGCATGTGCGCGCGGACCTGTTCAAGGGCGTGC CCAGCGCGACCGCGAGGGCTTCCGCCGCGCTCGCGGCATCCGCTCTCGCCCGCATCGGACGCTGGGGC GGCTAGGCCCGCGCTCAGGCGCTCAGGGCCACTTCTTGAAGGGCGTTCACATCGGTCTATCGTCAG ACTCTCCCAAGTCGGTAATTTGTAAGCAACACTAACAAATATCACGCCGAACCGCAGAGGAAAAATG AGGCTCCGGACACCTTGCCTGCGGATCGCCGCGCTGTACTCTTTGACACAGGCCAGACAGGGAA CGCTCCCCATGTGCGATGAATTCACCGAAGCCGAAACGACCAAGTGGGCCCTGAACCGCGCGAATTT GCCGCGATCGGCGCGGAGTGGCCGCGCTCGCCGCTTGGCCGGCTGCGCGACGGCGGGCGAATCGG CCACCGCCAGCCGCGACGTGGTGATCGACACGCCGACGAAAGGCCGACGCCCTTCTCGTCTACCCC AGGAAGGGCAGACATGCGGCCGTATCATGTGCCCGGACATCGCCGGCTGCGCGATGCCTACAAGA CCATGGGCACCCGCTTGCCG	Construct for deletion of RS14230 from <i>N. aromaticivorans</i> DSM12444. Upstream and downstream homology arms are shown in blue and red, respectively. Synthesized by Genescript.
NaRS14250	TCACGCGCAACCCGAGGCCTTCATCAGGCTTCGGTCTCGATATGATCGTGCCGCACTTCGGCGGGG TTCGCCGATCGTCGATACCGATGAAGCTGGTGTAGACAGGTGCGCCACGCCCGCCGCTGCCGCCG GTGATCGCCGCTTGTGTGAACACCCGCGCGCCGACCCGCGTGGCCGAGATCAGCAGCATCCGCT CCGCCCCCTGCAACCGCTCCGCCAGCGCTTTCGGGCTGTGCGAAATCGCCATAGCGCACGGTGCAGCCC TGTGCTGCCCGGTGCGCGACGCTTTCGGGCTTGGCGGTATGAGGATCAGGCTTTCGGCGCGCCCTG CGGATCAGGGCGGTCCGTCACGCCCGGCCATAGTTGCCGAGGCTCCGGTAATGACGATGCGGCTCA CGCTGCGGAGCCTTCAAGCGCGTCCAGTTGCGGCTGGGGCACCTGCGGAAAAGCGCCATGGCAAGA ACCTCACCTATCAATTGTTATCGTCTTGTAGCGTTTCCCTCCCCGAGATCAAGCCACCAAGTAGGCC GTAGCGCGCATTTGATGCTGACGCGCGGGGGGACATCGCCCGGCAATCGGGCAGGTGCAAGGCCA CGTGCGGCACATGGTGCGCGCGGGCGGATCGCTGTCTGTGTTGTTGAACAGCACCCGCTCGTCGATC CGCATATCCGGAAGAAGTACCAGCGGTGCGCGGGATTGTGGGCCACGACAGCCCTTCGAACGACC ATTCCGGTTGCCCGGTTCTGCGAACCCGCTCCGCTCGATCAGGTTCGCGGGCGCAAGGCTGCGC GCGTCGCAAGCGCAGCGCACGTCCTGCGGGGCGGAGAGATTGCGCGCCACACGTTGTAGGCGG CGCAGCGCACGAAAGGCCG	Construct for deletion of RS14250 from <i>N. aromaticivorans</i> DSM12444. Upstream and downstream homology arms are shown in blue and red, respectively. Synthesized by Genescript.
EcRS14230	CATATGACCGACGTGAACGCGAGCAGCAGAGCCGCTCTGGCGGCGCTGGAAGCGCGTGTACCGAGC TGGAAGATCTGAACGCGATCCGTCGTCTGCACTGGGCGTACGGTTACTATATTGACTATAACCGTCCG GAGGAAGTGGCGGGTCTGTTCGCGAAGGATGGCGCGGTGGTTTCTGAGCGCGCAGTACGTGGGTAA TGAAAGCGCTTATCGCTCTGTACGGCACCTGGTTCCAGAACCCTGTTACCGGTGGCCGCTCGTGGTCCGG TGCATGGTCTGCTGCTGACCACTTCCAGCTGCAAGATGTTATCACCATTCGCCCGGACGGTCAAACC GCGAAAGGTTCGTTTCTGTTGATCTTGGCGGGTGGCTGGCATGACGATATTGTGAAGGATAAACCGGA GGGTATGCCGCGAGCAATTCTGGGAGAGCGGCATCTACGAAACGACTATGTGAAGGAAGATGGTGT TGGAAGATTAAACGCTTGGACTACATGATGCACTGGCAAGCGGATTATGAGACCGGCTGGAGCAAGA CCATTGCGCACCTGCAAGCGCGCGCGGTGTGCTTCCCGGAAACCCGATTGGTCCGGACCGCTGCTG CCGAGAGCCGAAGTGCCTCAAACCTGGCCGACCGTGGCGAAGTGGCGATGAGCTTTGCGCATCCGG TGCTGGCGAAGGCGTTTGCGGTTGGCGAATTTACCAAACTGCAAAAGAAATGGCCG <sup>Gtaa</sup> GTCGAC	Codon optimized (OptimumGene™) RS14230 DNA sequence for expression in <i>E. coli</i> . The open reading frame is shown in <u>dotted underline</u> . Fragment ordered from Genescript.
EcRS14250	CATATGGGTGCGTTCGCCGAGACCATCTACTTTACCGGTGCGAACCGCGCGGTGGGTGAAGAACCCGGA CCTGCGTGGTCTGAAAGTGGAGGGCGATCTGCCGCGGAAAGTTCGTGGTAGCTTCTATCTGCGCATC CGGACCCGCGTTCGCCGCGCGTTTGTGAGAACGACACACCTTGAGCGGTGATGGCATGGTTAGCCGT CTGAGCTTCAACCGGTGACGGCACCGCGGATTTTATTCAGAAGTACGTTGAGACCGCGCGTTATAAGCG GGAAGAAAGCGCGGTAAAGCGCTGTTCCGCAAGTACCGTAAACCGTTTACCGACGATCCGGAAGTG CAAGGTGTTGACCGTACCGTTGCGAACCACCCCGTTTGGCATGCGGGTGGTATGCTGATGGCGAA AGAAGACCGCGCTCCGTACCGTGTGGATCCGCGTACCTTGGCGACCATCGGTAGCTATGATTTCGGTG GCGCGCTGAAGAGCGAGACCATGACCGCGCACGTTCTGATTGACCGGGTACCGCGAGCTGTCTCTT TACCGTTATGAAGCGGATGGCCAGCGAGCACCAAGTGGCGGTACTGCTTGTGGTCCGGACCGCG AGCTGAAGCGTGAACAATGGTTTGACGCGCGCTATTGCGCGATGATGACGATTTCACCATCAGCGAA AACTACGCGCTGTTCCGATTATCCGACACCGCGGACCTGGATCGTCTGAAAGCGGGTGGCGAGCA CTGGCACACACCGCGGAACTGGACAGCTGGCTGGGTGATGATGCCGCTTACGGCGATGTTAGCGAG ATCAAGTGGTTCAAGGTCGGAAGGGCTGCCACAGCTATCACATGATGAACGCGTGGGAAGACCGCG ATGGTATGCTGCACTTTGACGCGTGCCTGAACAACACCAACGCGTTTCGCGTTATCCGTGAGCCGAGC GGTATTCACATGGGCCCGCAAGACATTAAAGGTGCGCTGACCCGTTGGACCGTGGATCCGCGTGGCGA TGGTGGCGATGTGGTTGAAACCGTGATTGGTCCGCGCGGTGATTCCCGGTTATCCGGCGGAAACTGC AGGGTCTGCTCGTACAAGACCGGCTGGATGCTGAGCATGAACCCGGAGCTGCAAGGTCCGCGCGTGT GCGGGTCCGGTGGCGGTTAGCTTAAACCTGCTGCTGCGTCTGGATGGTATGGATACCCCGCGCGCGCA GGTACCAGGTGCGCTGCGCTGCGCGCGATGGCGGGCTTAAACGAACCGGTGCTATGTTCCGGCGCGCG ACCCGCGGAAAGATGGTTGGCTGGTGTCTCGGTTGACCAGCAAGTGGGCGATAACCAAGTTTGTTCAC GAAGCGTGGGTGGTTGACGCGGGTAACATTGGTGGCGGTGCGGTGGCGAAGGTTACATTCCGACCC GTCTGCGTCCGCAAGTGACACGGTTGGTGGGTTCCGCAAGCGCAACTGGATGCGCTGGAAGGCAGCGC GGCG <sup>Gtaa</sup> GTCGAC	Codon optimized (OptimumGene™) RS14250 DNA sequence for expression in <i>E. coli</i> . The open reading frame is shown in <u>dotted underline</u> . Fragment ordered from Genescript.
gAW002	tatataTCTAGA <sup>acaattaataagctaagccataagcacaacttt</sup> ATGACTGACGTCAACGCCAGTAGCGAATCCCGCTGGC CGCTCTGGAAGCGCGCGTCAACGAACTGGAGGACTTGAACGCGATCCGCCGCTTGCAGTGGGCATAC GGGTACTACATCGACTACAACCGTCCAGAGGAAGTGGCGGCGCTGTTTCGCCAAGGACCGCGCGGTAG TATTCTGCTCGGTGAGTACGTTGGCTACGAGGGGGTATGCTGCGCTGATGACGCGACCTGGTTCAGAAC CTCTTACCGGCGGTGCGCGCGGCCAGTGACCGGCTCTGCTCGACCACTTCCAGCTGCAGGACGT GATCACCATCGCCCGAGACGGCGAGACTGCTAAGGGCGGTTTCCGTGGTATCCTGGCCGGTGGTGGC ACGACGATCGCTTAAAGACAAGCTGAGGGTATGCGGACGAGTTCGGGAGAGCGGTTATCATGA AAACGATTACGTTAAGGAAGATGGCGTCTGGAAGATCAAGCGCCTGGATTACATGATGCACTGGCAG CGCGCATACGAGCCGGCTGGTTCGAAGACCATCGCTCACTGCAAGCGGCTGCGGTTTGGTTCGCCGGA AAACCCGATCGGTCCAGACCGCTTCTGCCAGAAACCGAAGTGGCGACACCTGGCCGACCGCGCG GAGGTCCCAGTGTCCTTCGCTCATCCGGTCTGGCCAAAGGCTTTCGCAAGTTGGCGAATTCACCAAACTG CAGAAGAAGTGGCCGACTAGT <sup>tatata</sup>	Codon optimized (Optimizer) RS14230 DNA sequence for expression in <i>P. putida</i> (CAI=0.72). The open reading frame is shown in <u>dotted underline</u> . RBS was designed in RBSCalculator ( <u>double underline</u> , AU=10070). XbaI and SpeI cut-sites ( <u>underlined</u> ) and six random base pairs inserted flanking. gBlock ordered from IDT.

gAW004	tatataTCTAGATcaaaaacccaacctaagcaggaattctATGGGTGCCTTCCCCAAACCATCTATTTTACCGGTGCTAACGCACCGGTGGGCGAAGAGCCAGACCTGCGTGGCTTGAAAGTCGAGGGCGATTGCCGGCAGAAAGTGGGGGTAGCTTTTACCGCGCTATTCGGGACCCCGCTTTCTCTCCACGCTTCGAAAAATGATCACACGTTGAGCGGTGACGGCATGGTGAGCCGTCTGTCTGTTCAACGGCGATGGCACCGCGGACTTCATCCAGAAATACGTCGAGACGGCGCGCTACAAGGCCGAGAAGGCCGCGCGCAAAGCTTTGTTTGGCAAATACCGCAATCCATTTACCGACGATCCCGAGGTGCAGGGCGTGGACCGTACGGTCGCAAAACACCACGCCAGTCTGGCACGCAGGCCGTATGTTGATGGCGAAAAGAAGATGGCCGGCCGTACCGCGTGGACCCACGCACGCTCGCCACGATTGGGAGCTACGACTTCGGTGGTGCATTGAAGTCGGAAACCATGACGGGCACATGTCCGTATTGACGCCGTACGGGGGAGCTGTTTTTTACGGCTATGAAGCAGATGGTCAGGCCAGCACCAAGGTGGCCTATTGTATCGTGGGGCTGACGGCGAGCTCAAGCGTGAACAATGGTTCGACGCACCTTATTGTGCGATGATGCATGATTTCACCATTCGGGAGAACTACGCTCTCTTCCCTATTACCTACCACGGCTGATTGGACCGCTCAAAGCCGGGGGTGAGCATTGGCACCATCAACCCGAATTGGATTCTGTGGTGGGGGTGATGCCACGTTACGGTGACGCTCTCGGAAATCAAATGGTTCAAAGGTCCTAAAGGTTGTCAATTCGTACCATATGATGAACGCATGGGAGGATGCTGATGGGATGTGCACTTCGATGCATGCTTGAACAACACGAATGCCTTCGCCTTCATCCGGGAACCATCCGGGATCCACATGGGCCCTCAAGACATTAAAGGTGCGCTGACGCGCTGACGGTTCGATCCCGCGCGGACGGTGGTGACGTGGTGGAGACCGTCATCGGCCCTCCTGGGGATTTC CAGTCAATCCGGCGAAGCTGCAAGGGCGTCTTATAAAACCGGGTGGATGTTGTCGATGAATCCGGAGCTGCAAGGGTCCCCCGCTGTTCCGACGGCCCGTCCGGGGTGTCTGTTCAATCTGCTGCTGCGCCTGGACGGTATGGACACGCCTGCCCCCAAGTGACCGGTGCGCTCGCTCTCCCTCCGATGGCAGGGTTTAACGAGCCCGCTCCATGTGCTGCGGGACCCGGCGAAAGATGGGTGGTGGTGTCTTGGTTCGACGACGAGGTG GGGGACAACCAAGTTCGTCCACGAGGCATGGGTCTGCGATGCTGGTAACATCGGCGCTGGTGTCTGTCGCAAAGTCCATATTTCCACCCGGTTGCGGCCGCAAGTGACGGGTGGTGGGTCCCAAGCCCAACTGGACGCATTGGAAGGGTTCGGCTGCCACTAGTtatata		Codon optimized (IDT) <i>RS14250</i> DNA sequence for expression in <i>P. putida</i> in IDT's codon optimization tool. The open reading frame is shown in <a href="#">dotted underline</a> . RBS was designed in RBSCalculator ( <a href="#">double underline</a> , AU=10522). XbaI and SpeI cut-sites ( <a href="#">underline</a> ) and six random base pairs inserted flanking. gBlock ordered from IDT.
	RS14230 SeqF	GTGATGCAGTTTGACCACACC	Primer set for sequence confirmation of RS14230 deletion in JM18
RS14230 SeqR	ATCATCGGTTTGAGCTTCTTCTGC		
RS14250 SeqF	CAGGATCATCGCATCGGCATAG	Primer set for sequence confirmation of RS14230 deletion in JM19	
RS14250 SeqR	TTTGCCACATCGACATTTCCG		
oAW046	<a href="#">ggaattgtgagcgataacaatttcacac</a> TCTAGAACAATTAATAGGCTAAGGCCATAAGGACAACCTTTATGA		Primer set for amplification of <i>RS14230</i> (gAW002) with 5' overlap (oAW046, <a href="#">underline</a> ) to <i>RS14230</i> and 3' overlap (oAW060, <a href="#">underline</a> ) to <i>fpvA</i> region for HiFi Assembly of pAW001.
oAW060	<a href="#">cctgcttaggttggtttttgagcggcgcc</a> CGGCCACTTCTTCTGCAGTTTGG		
oAW061	<a href="#">caaatgcagaagaagtggcggcgccgc</a> TCAAAAACCAACCCTAAGCAGGAATTCTATGG		Primer set for amplification of <i>RS14250</i> (gAW004) with 5' overlap (oAW061, <a href="#">underline</a> ) to <i>RS14230</i> and 3' overlap (oAW059, <a href="#">underline</a> ) to <i>fpvA</i> region for HiFi Assembly of pAW001.
oAW059	<a href="#">atgagtaaaaagcctccggctggagcgttttgact</a> ACTAGTGGCAGCCGACCC		
oAW027	GTACTACCAGGGCATTGCC	pAW001 sequencing	
oAW029	GCCGTTTCCGTGGTATC	pAW001 sequencing	
oAW031	GACGGCACATGTCCG	pAW001 and pAW008 sequencing	
oAW062	GACGGCATGGTGAGC	pAW001 sequencing	
oAW063	GGGTGGATGTTGTCTGATG	pAW001 sequencing	
oAW103	<a href="#">catacacgcacgagatttatggcgccattt</a> GCGGCCGCGAGCTGTTGACAATTAATCATCGGCTCGTATAATG		Primer set for amplification of <i>RS14230-RS14250</i> expression cassette (from pAW001) with 5' overlap (oAW103, <a href="#">underline</a> ) to <i>crc</i> HR <sub>up</sub> and 3' overlap (oAW104, <a href="#">underline</a> ) to <i>crc</i> HR <sub>dn</sub> region for HiFi Assembly of pAW008.
oAW104	<a href="#">ggggctgcaatgcagcccaatggcctt</a> GCGGCCGCGCAGCCGACCCTTCCAATGCGTCCAG		
oAW077	GAACTGGAGGACTGAACGC	pAW008 sequencing	
oAW105	CAAGCCGGCATTGAAGAAATACG	pAW008 sequencing	
oAW157	CAGACCGCTCTGCCAGAAACC	pAW008 sequencing	
oAW158	GATCCACATGGGCCCTCAAGAC	pAW008 sequencing	
oAW023	ACATCACCTGCTACGAAGC	Colony PCR for AW006	

oAW024	GATTCGCATGACACGCTG	(3634 bp, Tm=72°C)
oAW080	CGTGTGATCATTTCGAAGCG	Colony PCR for AW049 (1251 bp, Tm=65°C)
oAW105	CAAGCCGGCATTGAAGAAATACG	

**Table S2. Plasmids and strains used in this study.**

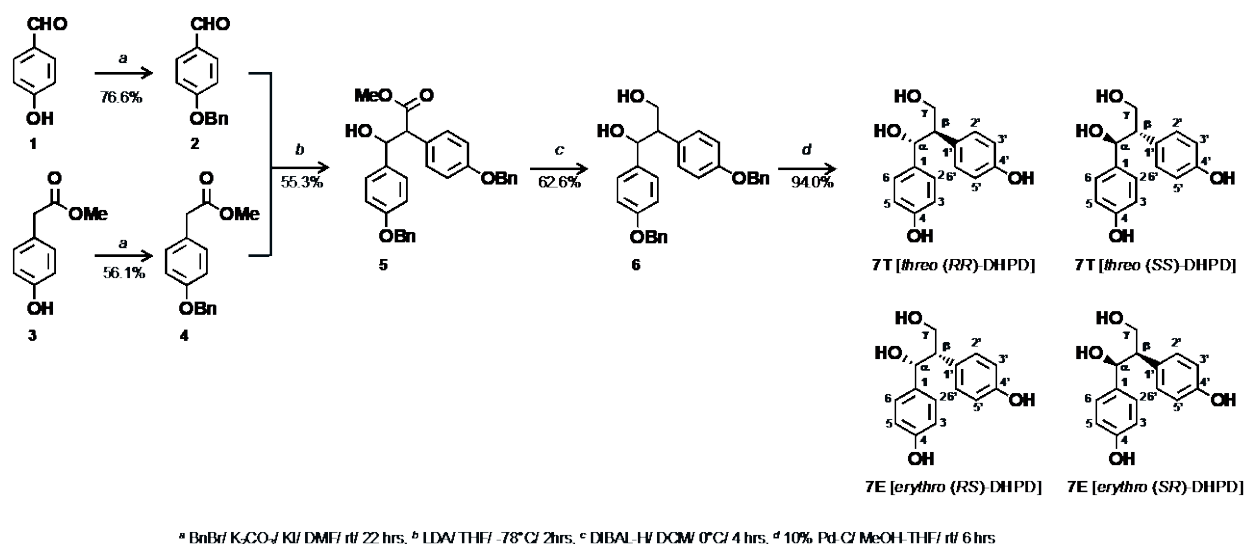
PLASMIDS			
Name	Utility or Genotype	Description/Construction Details	Reference
pAK405	To genetically modify the chromosome of <i>N. aromaticivorans</i> via homologous recombination	Vector backbone allowing markerless chromosomal modifications in diverse sphingomonads. Uses kanamycin for initial selection and streptomycin for counterselection.	1
pJM296	To delete RS14230 from <i>N. aromaticivorans</i>	Includes the synthesized sequence NaRS14230 above	This study
pJM297	To delete RS14250 from <i>N. aromaticivorans</i>	Includes the synthesized sequence NaRS14250 above	This study
pET-22b	<i>E. coli</i> expression vector	Contains a T7 promoter for gene expression, a pBR322 origin of replication, and an ampicillin selection marker	Novagen
pET22b-lsdA	Heterologous expression of LsdA in <i>E. coli</i>	Includes the synthesized sequence EcRS14250 above	This study
pET22b-lsdE	Heterologous expression of LsdE in <i>E. coli</i>	Includes the synthesized sequence EcRS14230 above	This study
pK18mobsacB	To genetically modify the chromosome of <i>P. putida</i> KT2440 via homologous recombination	“Cloning vector allowing mobilization into a wide range of Gram- and Gram+ bacteria. After mobilization, the plasmid can be maintained by integration into the host chromosome via homologous recombination. Excision of the intervening plasmid sequence by a double crossover event can be facilitated by selection on medium containing 10% sucrose. The <i>sacB</i> gene has been modified to eliminate the HindIII and EcoRI sites in the coding region.”	ATCC® 87097™
pCJ033	To integrate DNA into the <i>crc</i> genomic locus in <i>P. putida</i> KT2440	As described in: Johnson, C. W., Abraham, P. E., Linger, J. G., Khanna, P., Hettich, R. L., Beckham, G. T., Eliminating a global regulator of carbon catabolite repression enhances the conversion of aromatic lignin monomers to muconate in <i>Pseudomonas putida</i> KT2440. <i>Metabolic Engineering Communications</i> , Vol. 5, 2017, pp. 19-25.	2
pCJ107	To integrate DNA into the <i>fpvA</i> genomic locus in <i>P. putida</i> KT2440	As described in Salvachúa, D., Johnson, C. W., Singer, C. A., Rohrer, H., Peterson, D. J., Black, B. A., Knapp, A., Beckham, G. T., 2018. Bioprocess development for muconic acid production from aromatic compounds and lignin. <i>Green Chem.</i> 20, 5007-5019.	3
pAW001	To integrate a codon optimized <i>RS14230</i> and <i>RS14250</i> expression cassette into the <i>P. putida</i> KT2440 genome at the <i>fpvA</i> locus	The RS14230 amino acid sequence was codon optimized for expression in <i>P. putida</i> using Optimizer's guided random method; <sup>4</sup> the RS14250 amino acid sequence optimized with Optimizer contained a prohibitively high GC content for synthesis and therefore was optimized using Integrated DNA Technology's codon optimization tool (www.idtdna.com) (Table S1). Ribosome binding sites were designed for each gene using the RBS Calculator and the two-gene operon was driven by the constitutive tac promoter (Ptac). Both genes with their respective RBS were synthesized as gBlocks (IDT Corp.). gBlocks were amplified using Q5® Hot Start High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase (NEB, Inc.) and oligos as listed in Table S1, purified with the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific), assembled with HiFi DNA Assembly (NEB, Inc.) into XbaI/SpeI-digested pCJ107, and transformed into NEB® <i>E. coli</i> 5α F'F. The plasmid was sequence verified using oAW027, oAW029, oAW031, oAW062, and oAW062 (GENEWIZ.com).	This study
pAW008	To integrate a codon optimized <i>RS14230</i> and <i>RS14250</i> expression cassette into the <i>P. putida</i> KT2440 genome at the <i>crc</i> locus with simultaneous <i>crc</i> deletion	The <i>RS14230</i> and <i>RS14250</i> expression cassette was amplified from pAW001 with oAW103 and oAW104, assembled into pCJ033 digested with NotI with HiFi DNA Assembly (NEB, Inc.), and transformed into NEB® <i>E. coli</i> 5α F'F. Construction was confirmed via colony PCR using oAW105 and oAW106 (2.8 kbp, Tm=°56) and sequence verified using oAW031, oAW077, oAW105, oAW157, and oAW158 (GENEWIZ.com).	This study
STRAINS			
<i>Escherichia coli</i>			
BL21 Star (DE3)	F <sup>-</sup> <i>ompT hsdS<sub>B</sub> (r<sub>B</sub><sup>-</sup> m<sub>B</sub><sup>-</sup>) gal dcm rne131</i> (DE3)	Host for heterologous protein expression using plasmids pET22b-lsdA and pET22b-lsdE	Invitrogen Cat. #C601003
NEB® 5α F'F <sup>+</sup>	F <sup>+</sup> <i>proA<sup>+</sup>B<sup>+</sup> lacI<sup>q</sup> Δ(lacZ)M15 zzf::Tn10 (Tet<sup>R</sup>) / fhuA2Δ(argF-lacZ)U169 phoA glnV44 Φ80Δ(lacZ)M15 gvrA96 recA1 relA1 endA1 thi-1 hsdR17</i>	Host for pK18mobsacB-based vectors (ATCC® 87097™)	NEB Cat. #C29921
<i>Novosphingobium aromaticivorans</i>			
DSM12444	<i>Novosphingobium aromaticivorans</i> ( <i>N. aromaticivorans</i> ) F199	Wild-type <i>N. aromaticivorans</i> DSM12444	
JMN2	Evolved mutant of <i>N. aromaticivorans</i> F199	Evolved mutant of DSM12444	This study
JMN18	<i>N. aromaticivorans</i> JMN2 Δ <i>RS14250</i> ( <i>lsdA</i> )	RS14230 was deleted using pJM296. Deletion was confirmed with RS14230 SeqF/SeqR.	This study
JMN19	<i>N. aromaticivorans</i> JMN2 Δ <i>RS14230</i> ( <i>lsdE</i> )	RS14250 was deleted using pJM297. Deletion was confirmed with RS14250 SeqF/SeqR.	This study
<i>Pseudomonas putida</i>			
KT2440	<i>P. putida</i> KT2440	Wild-type <i>P. putida</i> KT2440	ATCC® 47054™
AW006	<i>P. putida</i> KT2440 <i>fpvA::P<sub>lac</sub>:RS14230:RS14250</i>	pAW001 was transformed into KT2440. Integration was confirmed by colony PCR with oAW023 and oAW024 (3.6 kbp product, Tm=72°C).	This study
CJ475	<i>P. putida</i> KT2440 Δ <i>catRBC::P<sub>lac</sub>:catA ΔpcaHG::P<sub>lac</sub>:aroY::ecdBD fpvA::P<sub>lac</sub>:vanAB</i>	As described in: Salvachúa, D., Johnson, C. W., Singer, C. A., Rohrer, H., Peterson, D. J., Black, B. A., Knapp, A., Beckham, G. T., 2018. Bioprocess development for muconic acid production from aromatic compounds and lignin. <i>Green Chem.</i> 20, 5007-5019.	3

<b>AW049</b>	<i>P. putida</i> KT2440 $\Delta catRBC::P_{lac}:catA$ $\Delta pcaHG::P_{lac}:aroY::ecdBD$ $\Delta cre::P_{lac}:RS14230:RS14250$ $fprA::P_{lac}:vanAB$	pAW008 was transformed into CJ475. Integration was confirmed by colony PCR with oAW080 and oAW105 (1.3 kB, T <sub>m</sub> =65°C).	This study
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**Table S3. Optimized quantifying and qualifying multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) transitions for liquid chromatography-electrospray ionization tandem mass spectrometry analysis.**

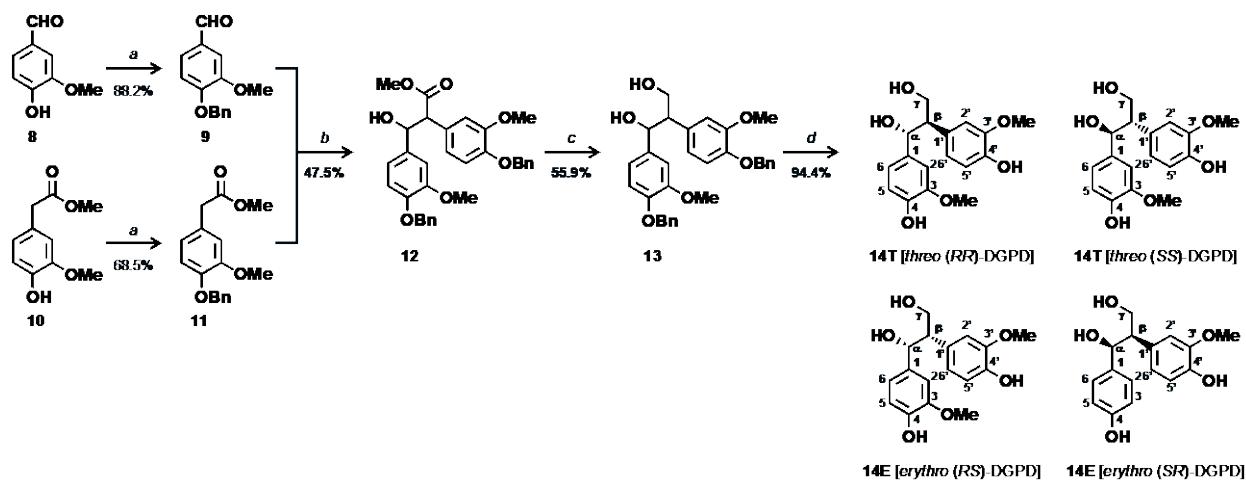
Analyte Name	Precursor Ion	Ion	MRM quantifying transition	CE (V)	Fragmentor (V)	MRM qualifying transition	CE (V)
<b>tGG bDAP</b>	319.1	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	319.1 → 271	8	95	241	28
<b>eGG bDAP</b>	319.1	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	319.1 → 271	8	85	212.9	40
<b>tHH bDAP</b>	259.1	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	259.1 → 211	8	95	117	72
<b>eHH bDAP</b>	259.1	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	259.1 → 211	8	95	182	44
<b>4-Hydroxybenzoic Acid</b>	137	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	137 → 93	16	70	65.1	36
<b>4-Hydroxybenzaldehyde</b>	121	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	121 → 120	20	98	92	28
<b>Vanillic Acid</b>	167	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	167 → 152	12	89	108	20
<b>Vanillin</b>	151	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	151 → 136	12	65	92	20

## Supplemental Figures



**Figure S1.** Scheme for the synthesis of the HH  $\beta$ -1 dimer, 1,2-di(p-hydroxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (DHPD, compound **7E/7T**, **7E**: *erythro*, **7T**: *threo*) was prepared from *p*-hydroxybenzaldehyde (**1**) in 5 steps, similar to a previous synthesis.<sup>5</sup> Benzylated methyl 4-hydroxyphenylacetate (**4**) was condensed with benzylated *p*-hydroxybenzaldehyde (**2**) to obtain  $\gamma$ -methyl ester (**5**) with 55.3 mol% yield, including *erythro* and *threo* isomers. The  $\gamma$ -methyl ester was reduced to  $\gamma$ -hydroxymethyl dimer (**6**) using DIBAL at 0°C with 62.6 mol% yield for the *threo* isomer and 92.1 mol% yield for the *erythro* isomer. The phenolic-OH group in compound **6** was deprotected to obtain DHPD (**7**) at a 94.0 mol% yield for the *threo* isomer (**7T**) and a 56.6 mol% yield for the *erythro* isomer (**7E**). See SI Text 1 for more details of the synthesis.





**Figure S2.** Scheme for the synthesis of the GG  $\beta$ -1 dimer, 1,2-diguaiacylpropane-1,3-diol (DGPD, compound **14E/14T**, **14E**: *erythro*, **14T**: *threo*). Benzylated methyl 4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenylacetate (**11**) was condensed with benzylated vanillin (**9**) to obtain  $\gamma$ -methyl ester (**12**) with a 47.5 mol% yield, including *erythro* and *threo* isomers. The  $\gamma$ -methyl ester was reduced to  $\gamma$ -hydroxymethyl dimer (**13**) using DIBAL at 0°C at a 55.9 mol% yield for the *threo* isomer and a 27.0 mol% yield for the *erythro* isomer. The phenolic-OH group in compound **13** was deprotected to obtain DGPD (**14**) with 94.4 mol% yield of the *threo* isomer (**14T**) and 64.0 mol% yield for the *erythro* isomer (**14E**). See SI Text 1 for more details of the synthesis.

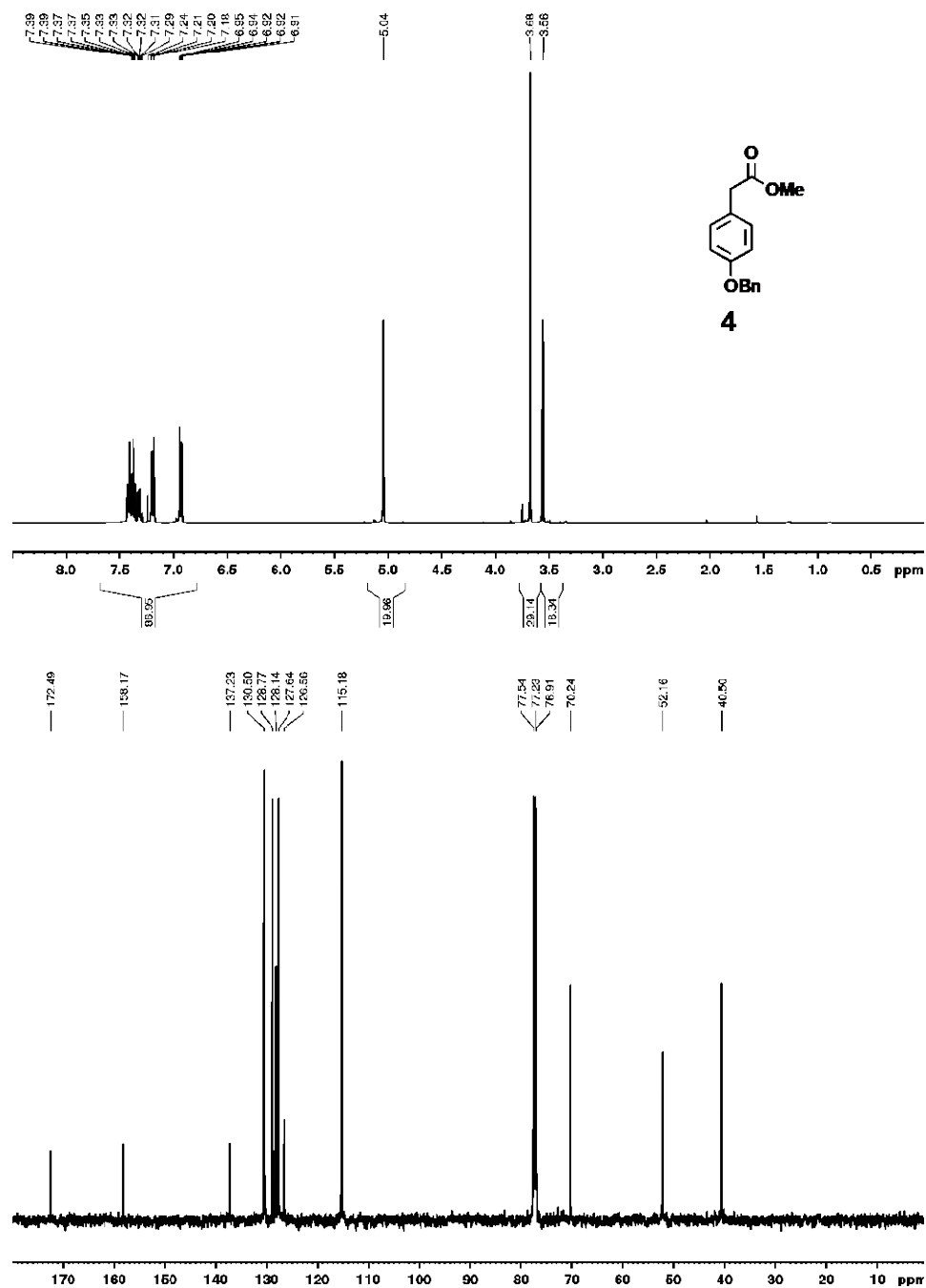


Figure S3. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound 4.

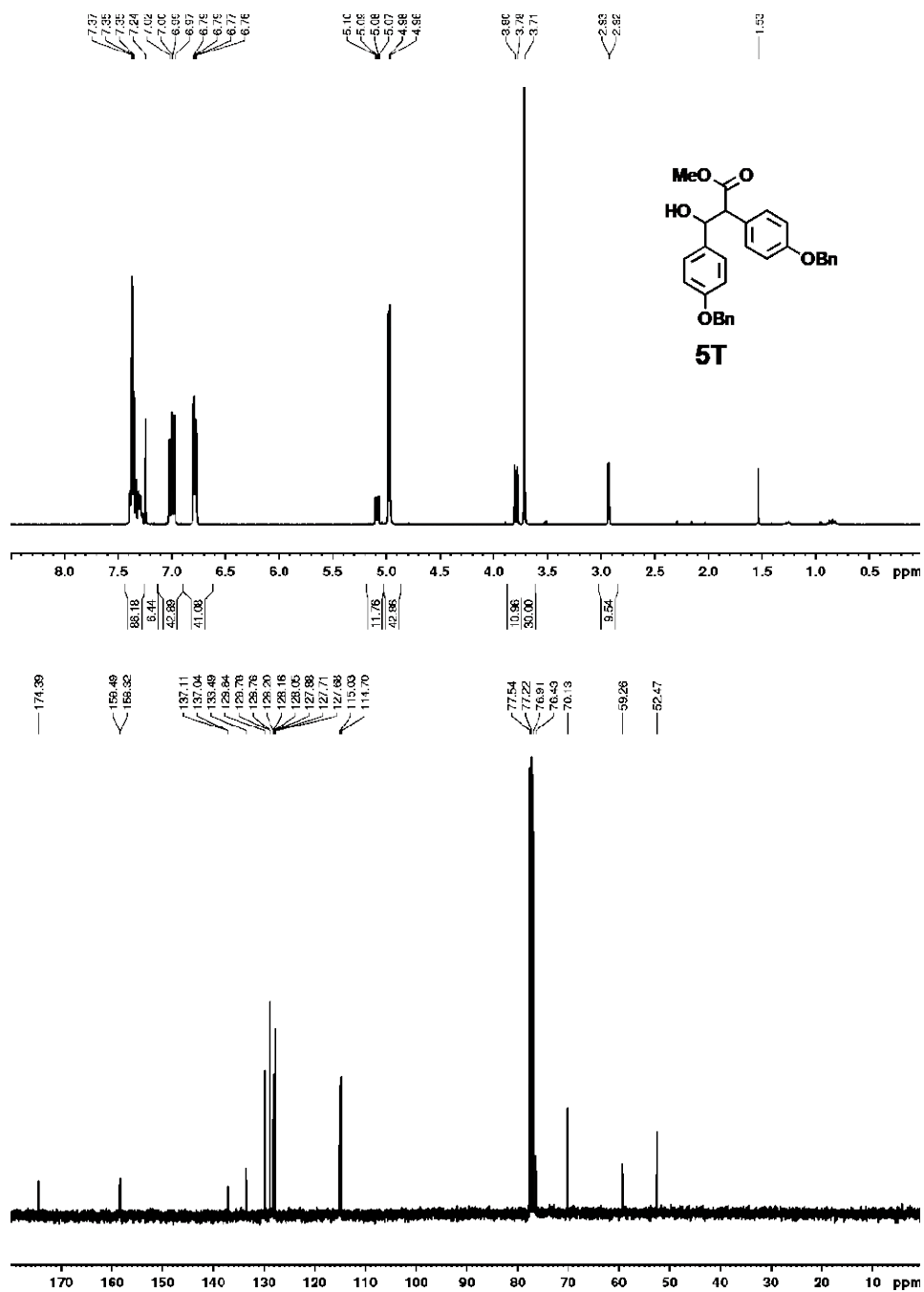


Figure S4. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound **5T** (*threo* isomer).

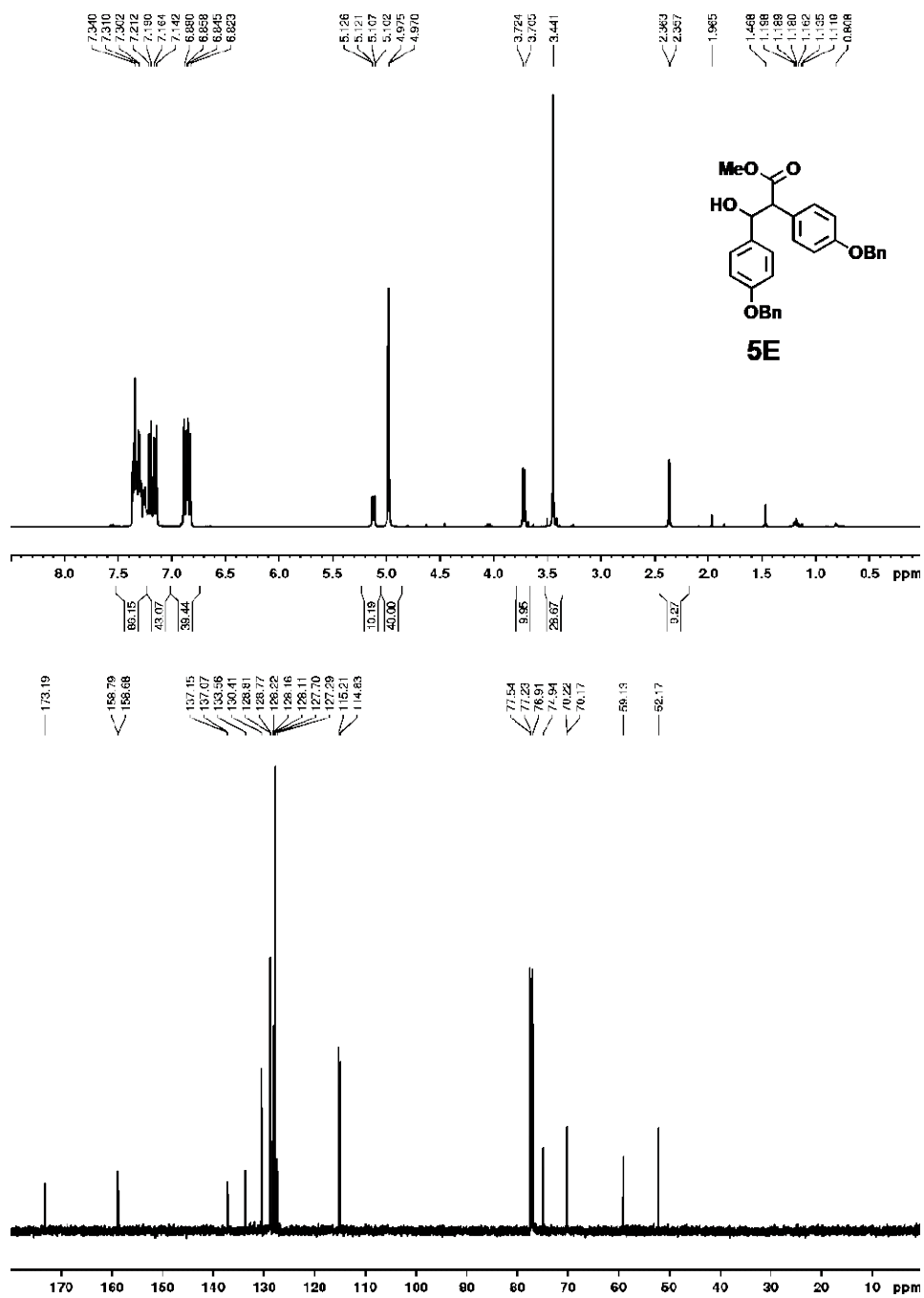
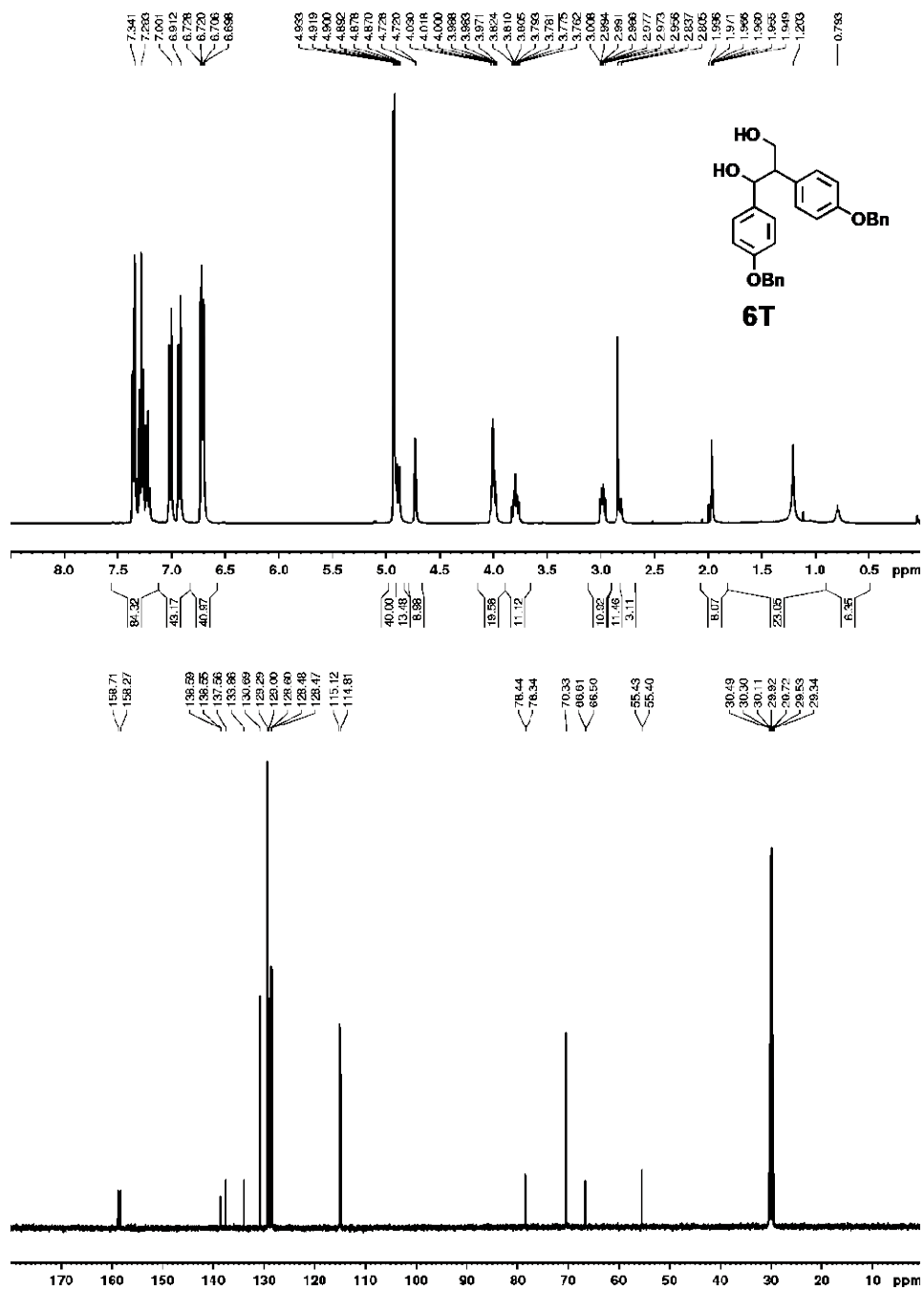


Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound **5E** (*erythro* isomer).



**Figure S6.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR ((CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO) spectra of compound **6T** (*threo* isomer).

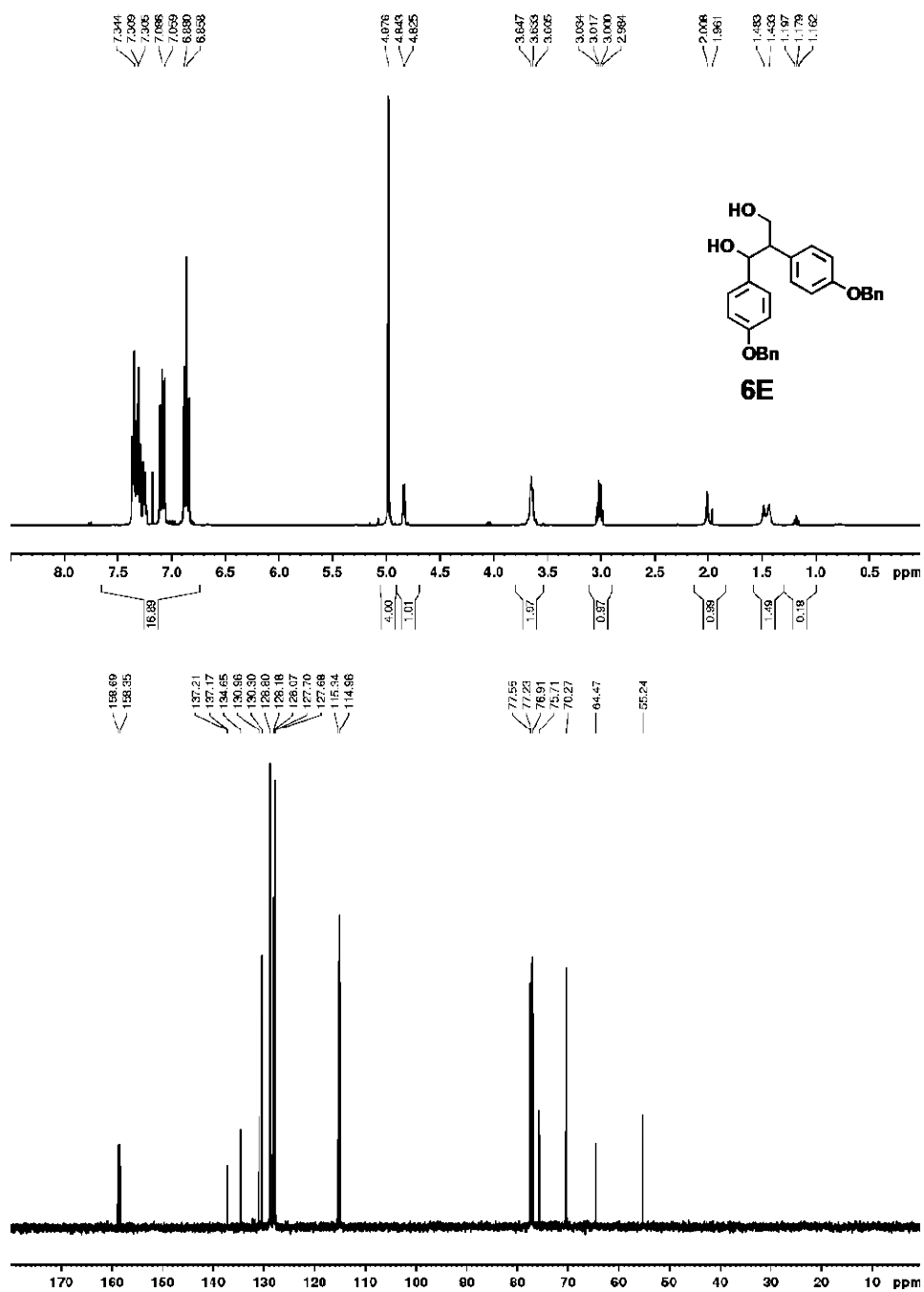
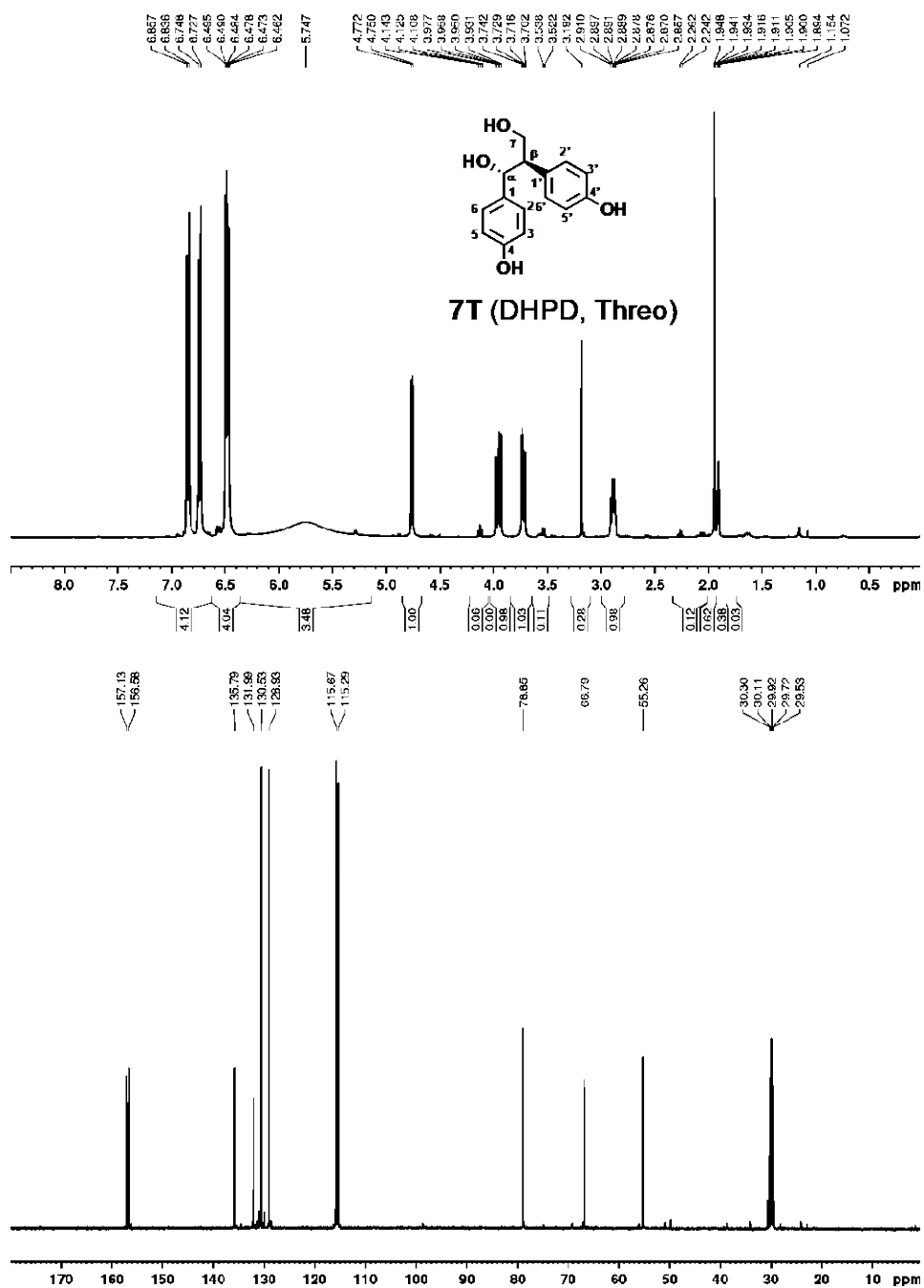
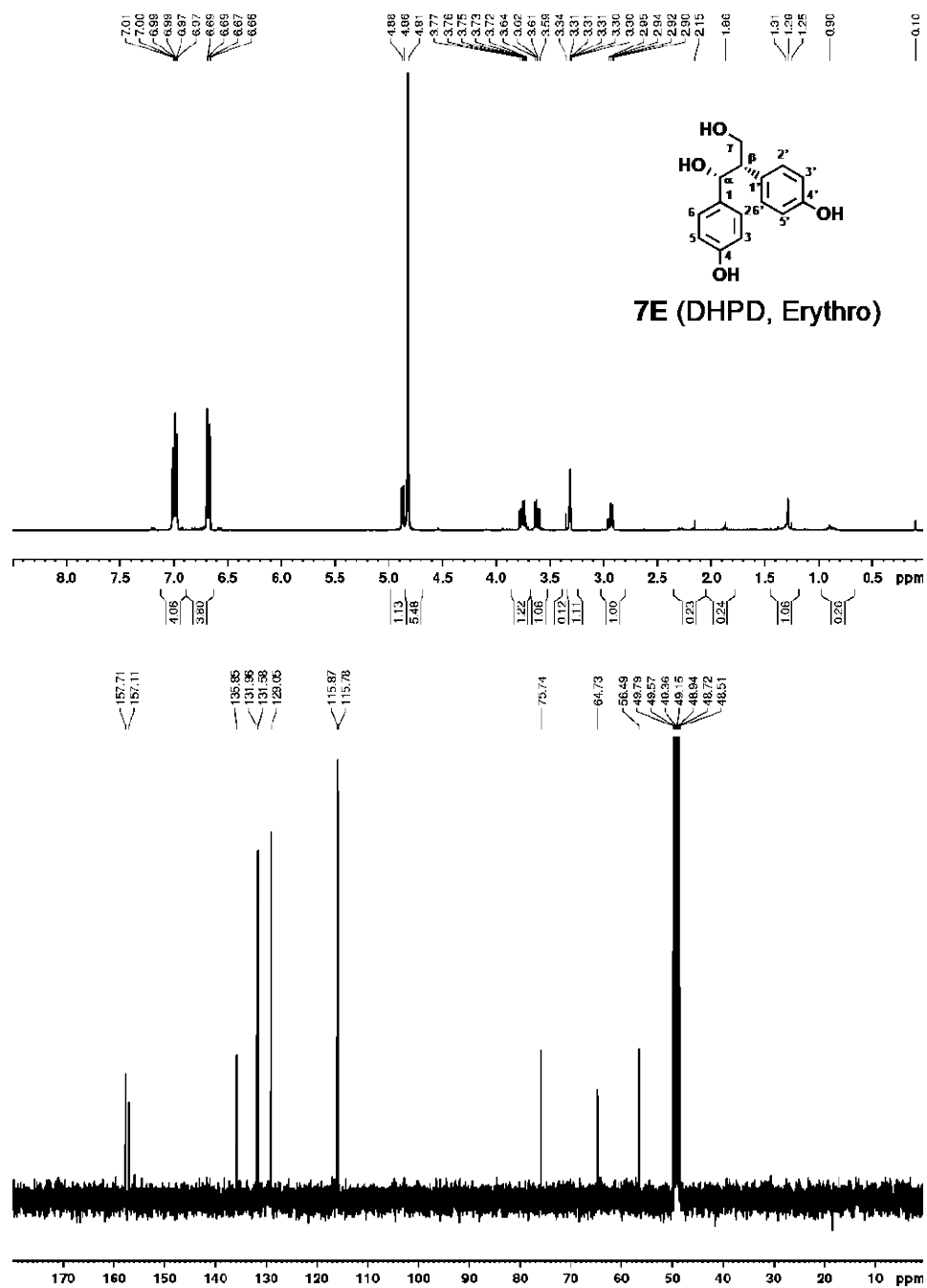


Figure S7. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound **6E** (*erythro* isomer).



**Figure S8.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR ((CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO) spectra of compound **7T** (*threo* isomer).





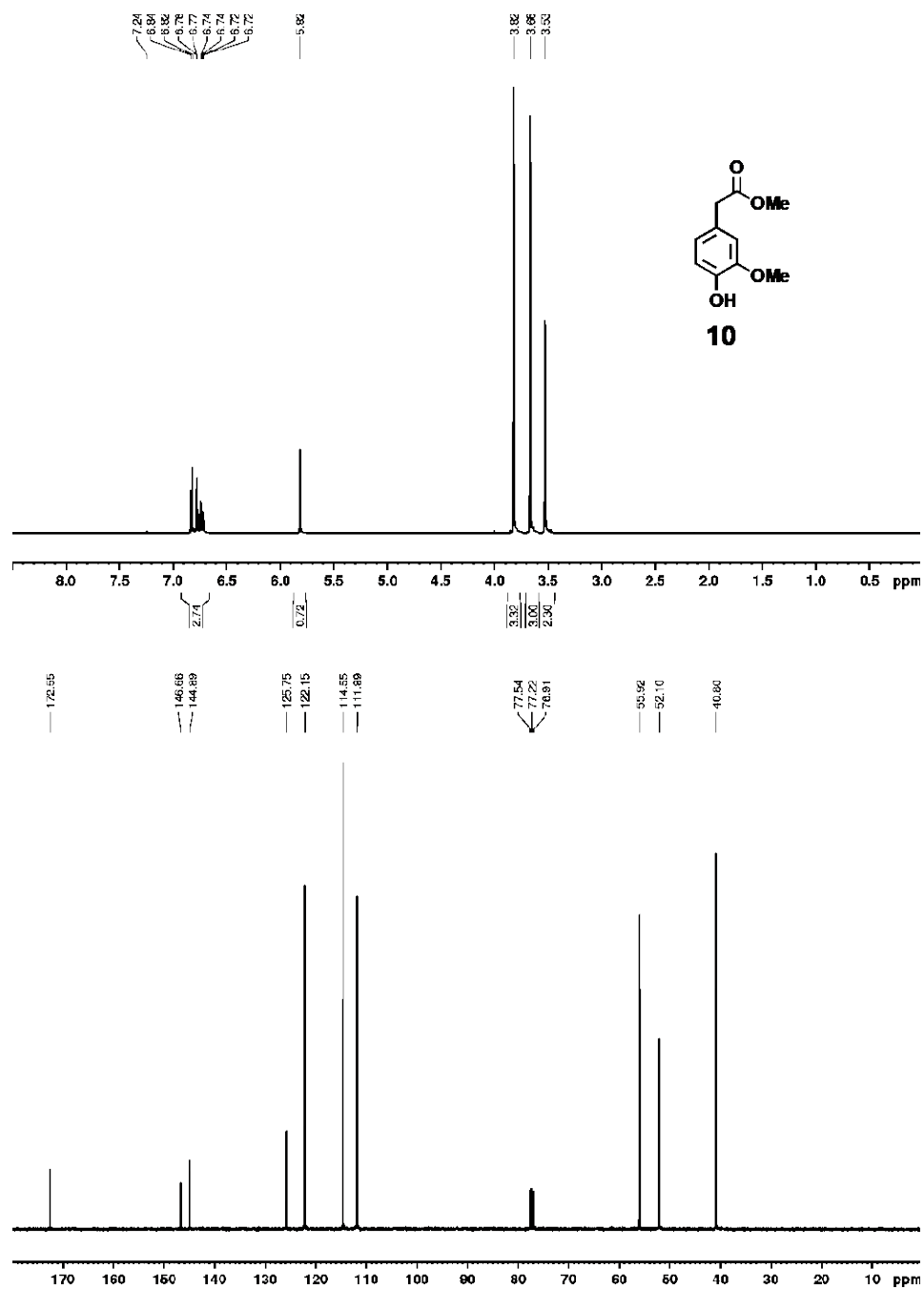


Figure S10. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound 10.

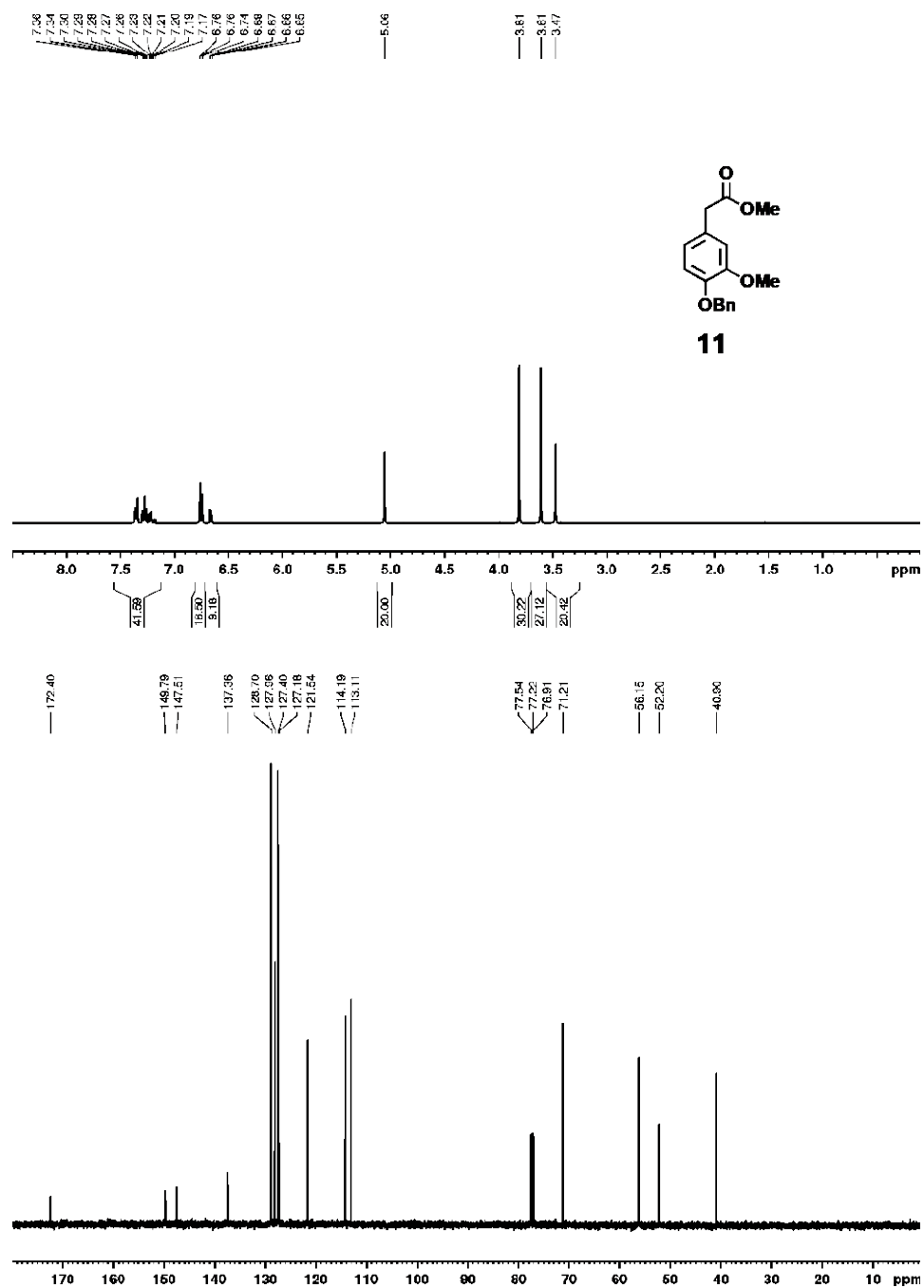
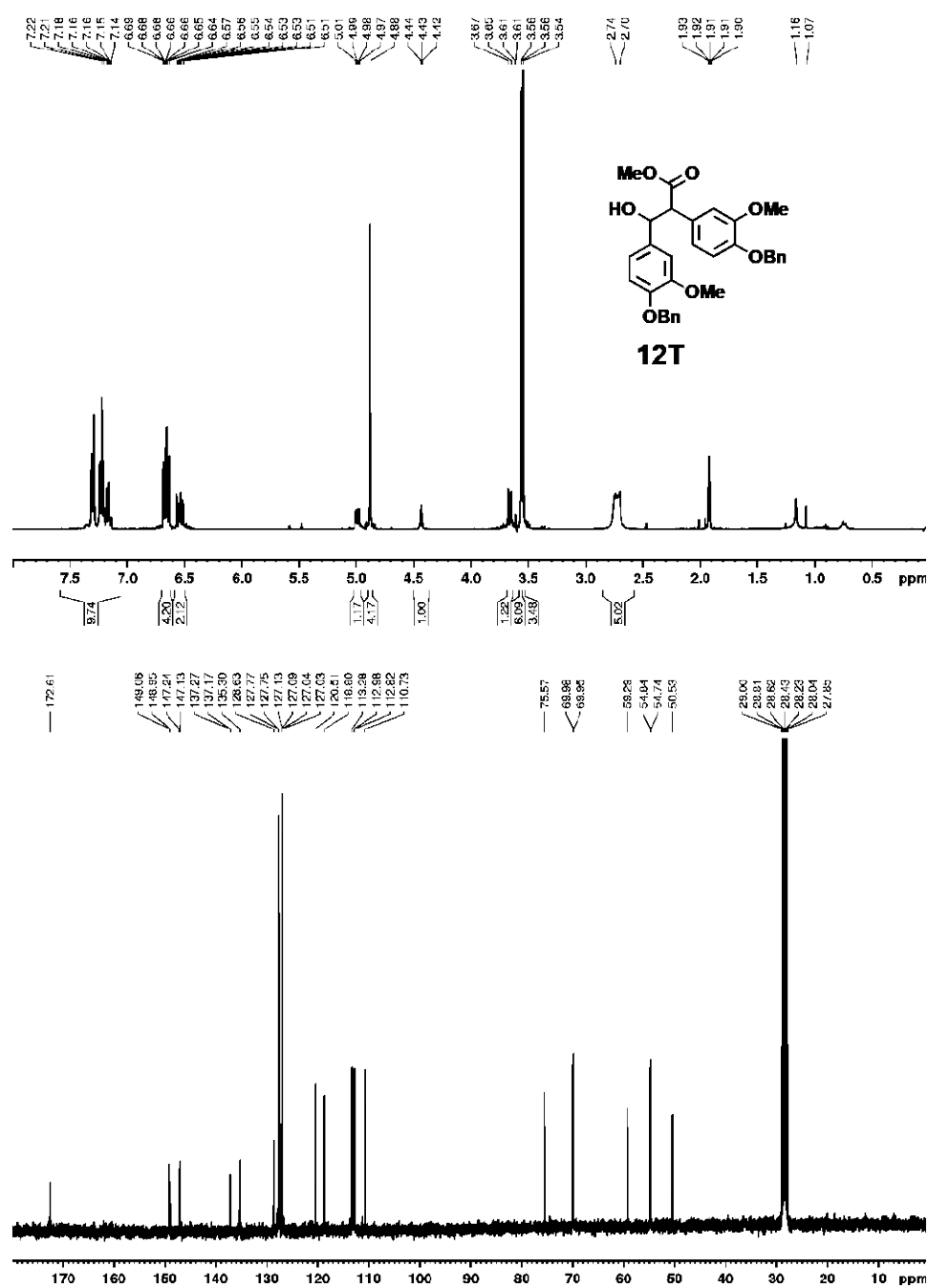


Figure S11. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound 11.



**Figure S12.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR ((CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO) spectra of compound **12T** (*threo* isomer).

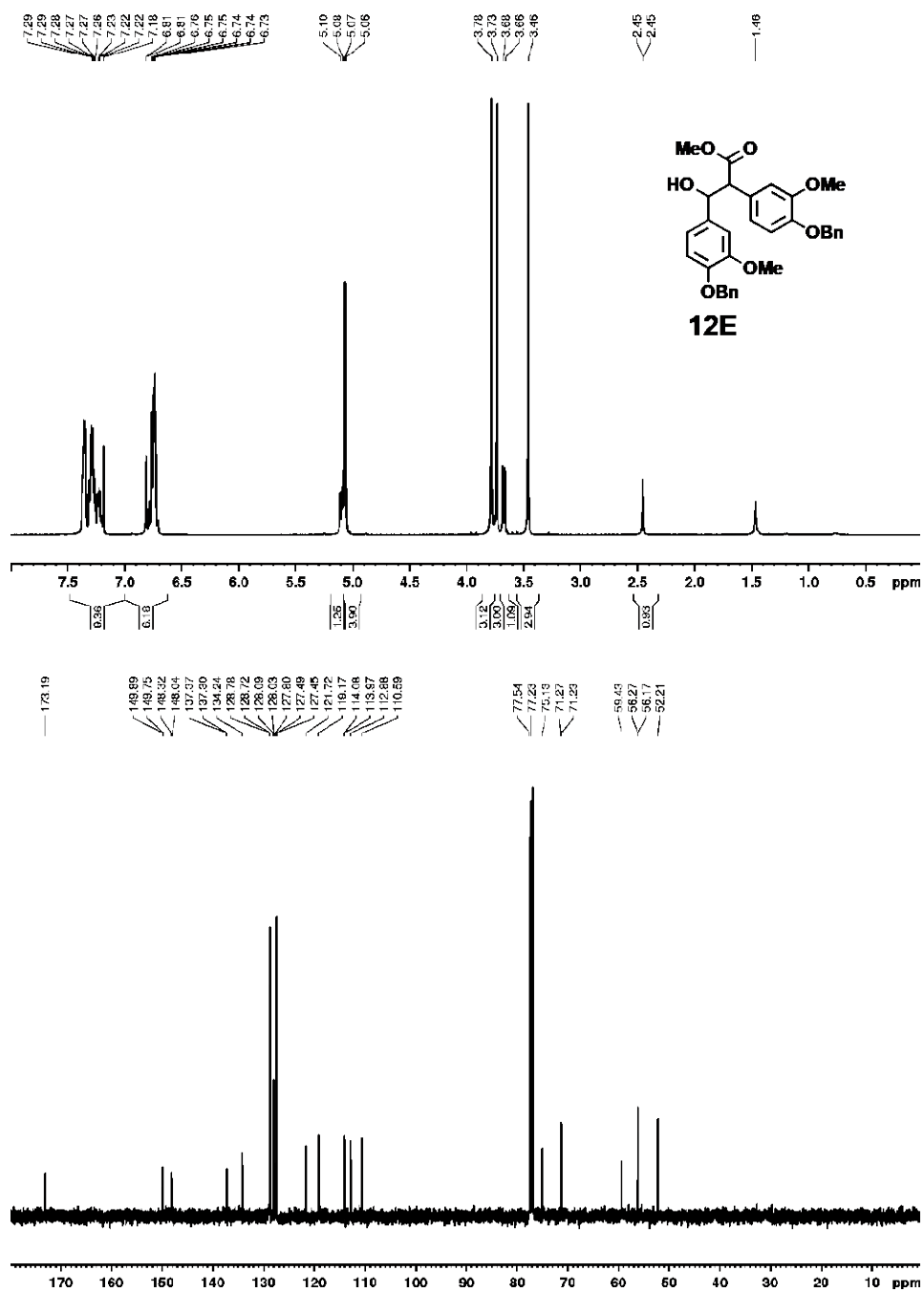
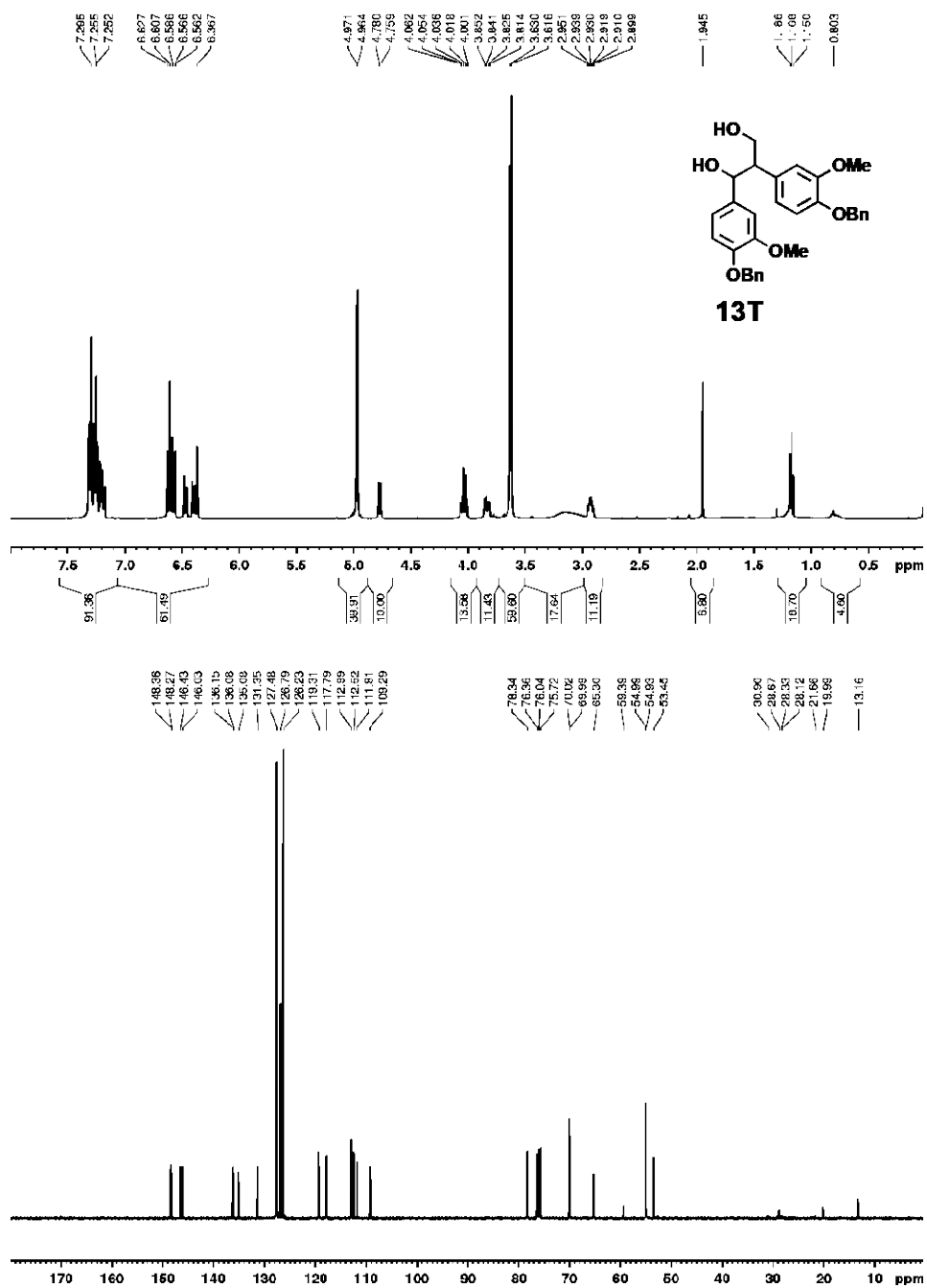


Figure S13. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound **12E** (*erythro* isomer).



**Figure S14.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound **13T** (*threo* isomer).

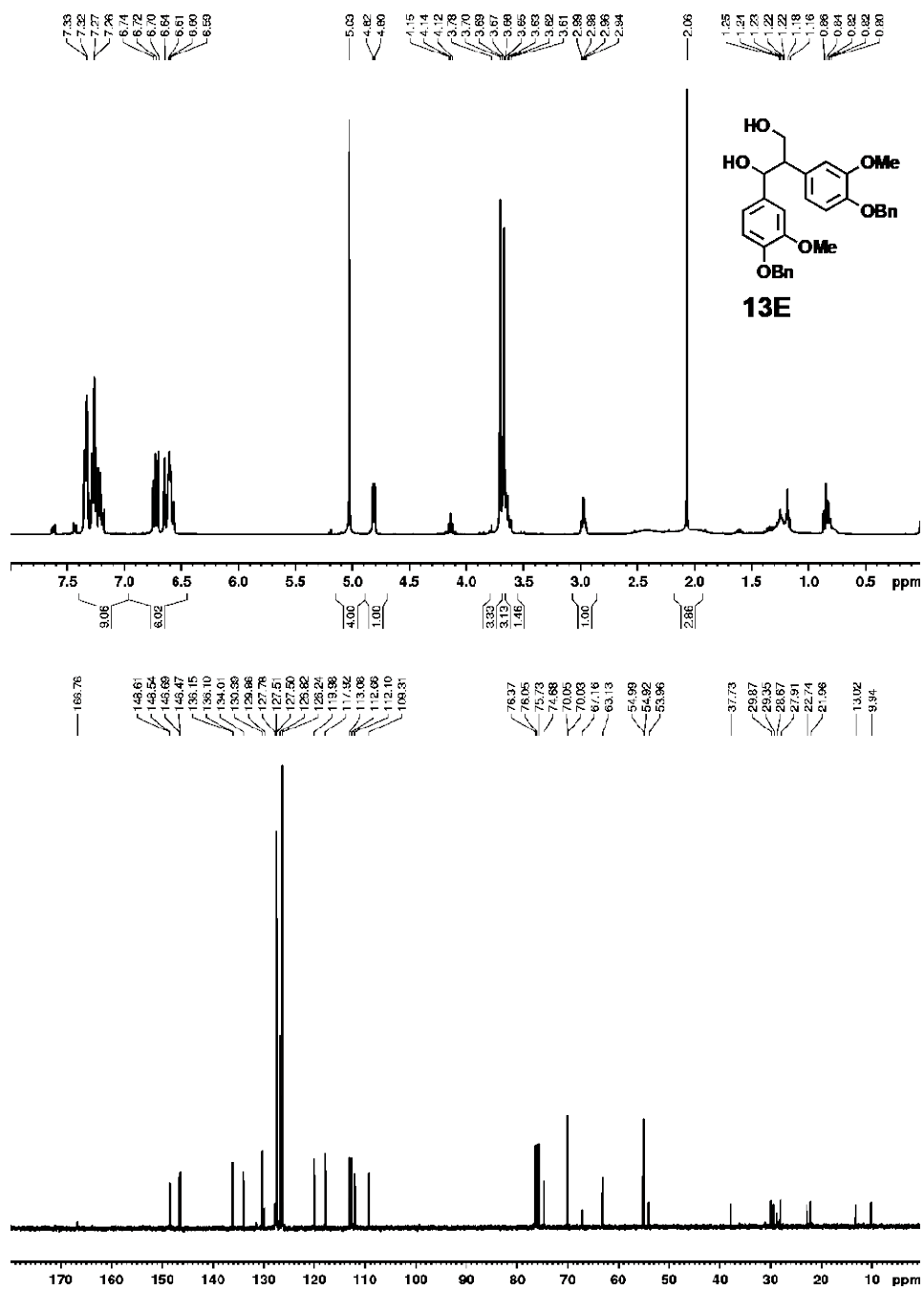


Figure S15. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of compound **13E** (*erythro* isomer).

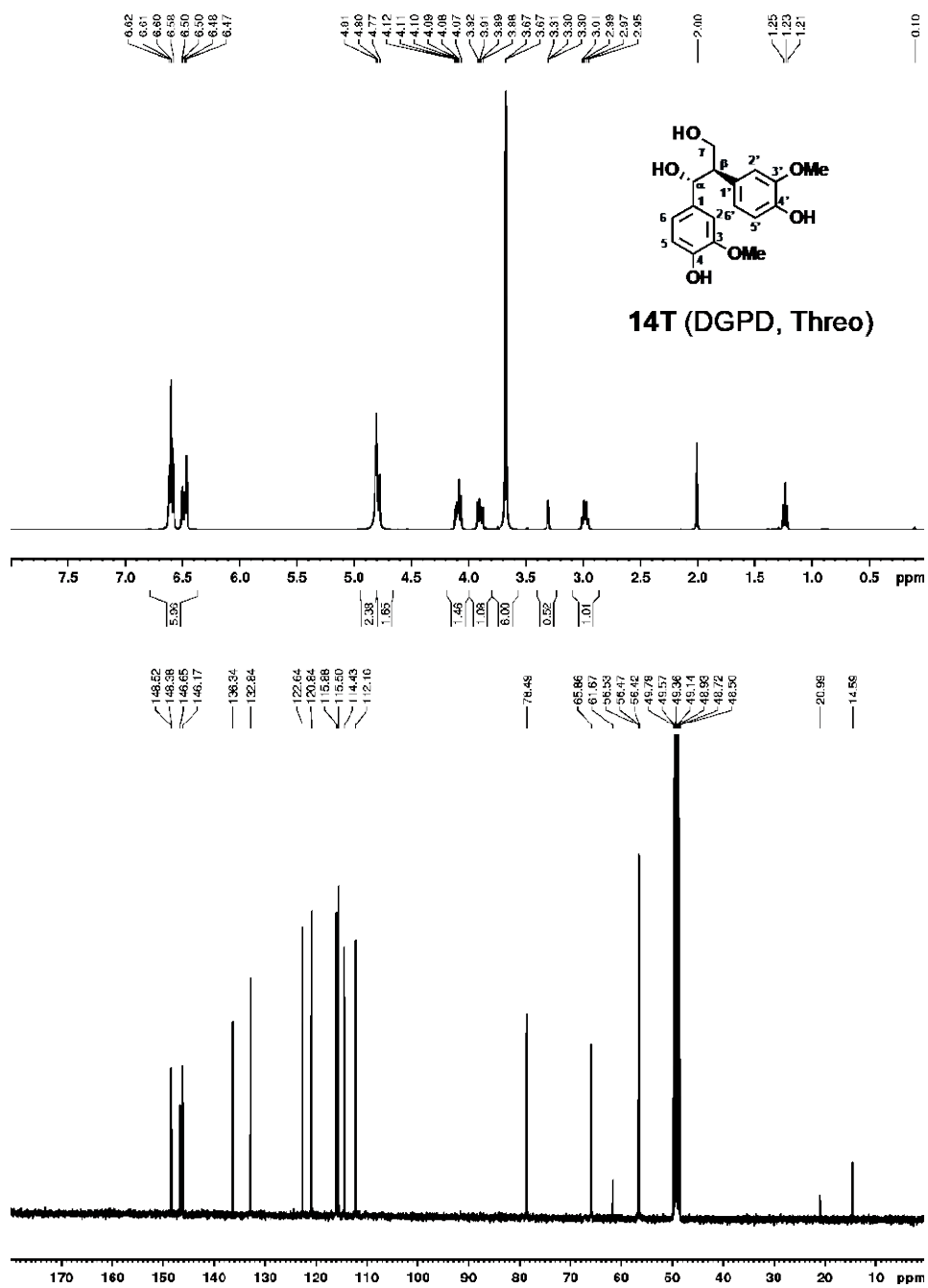


Figure S16. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) spectra of compound **14T** (*threo* isomer).

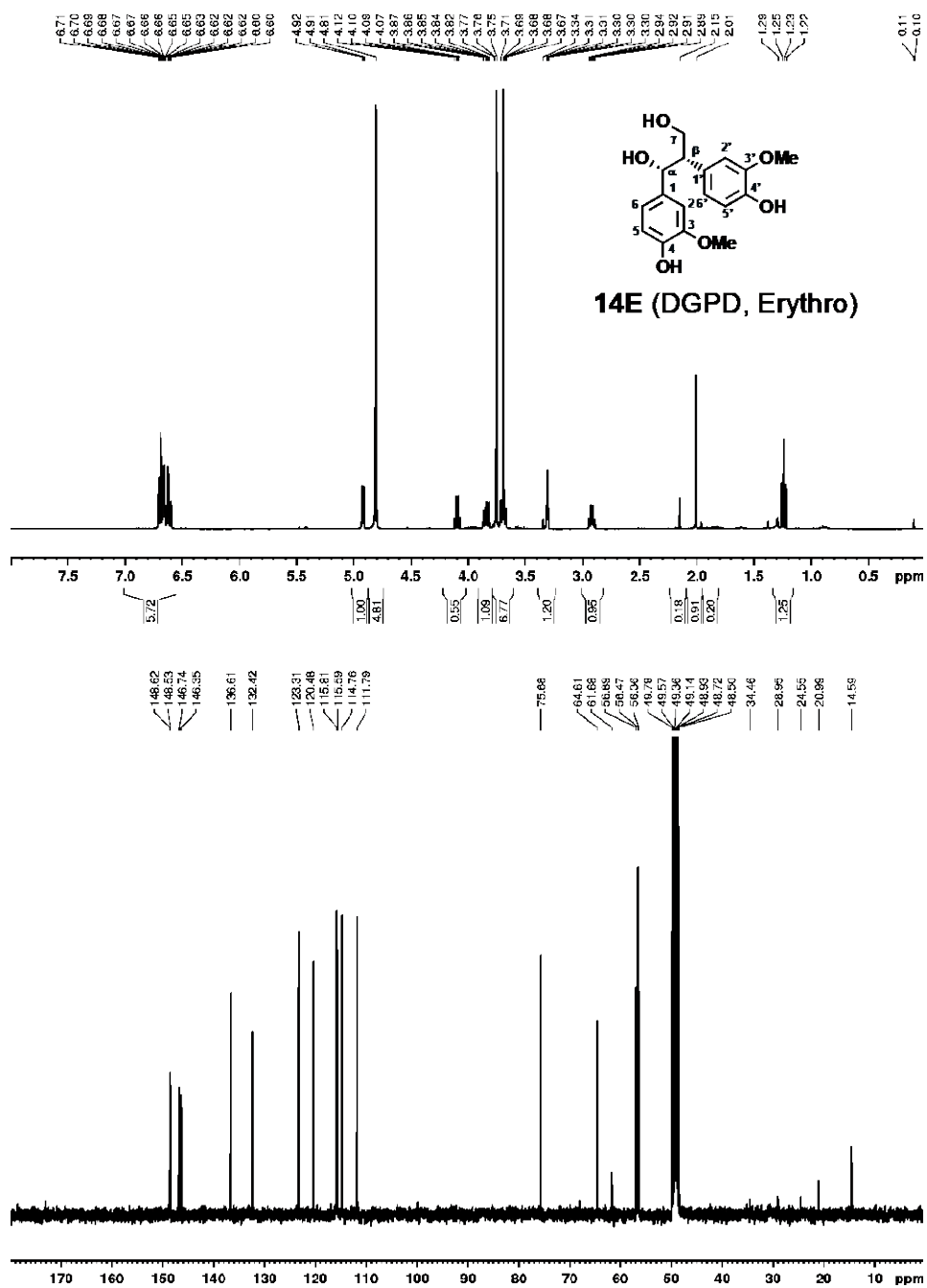
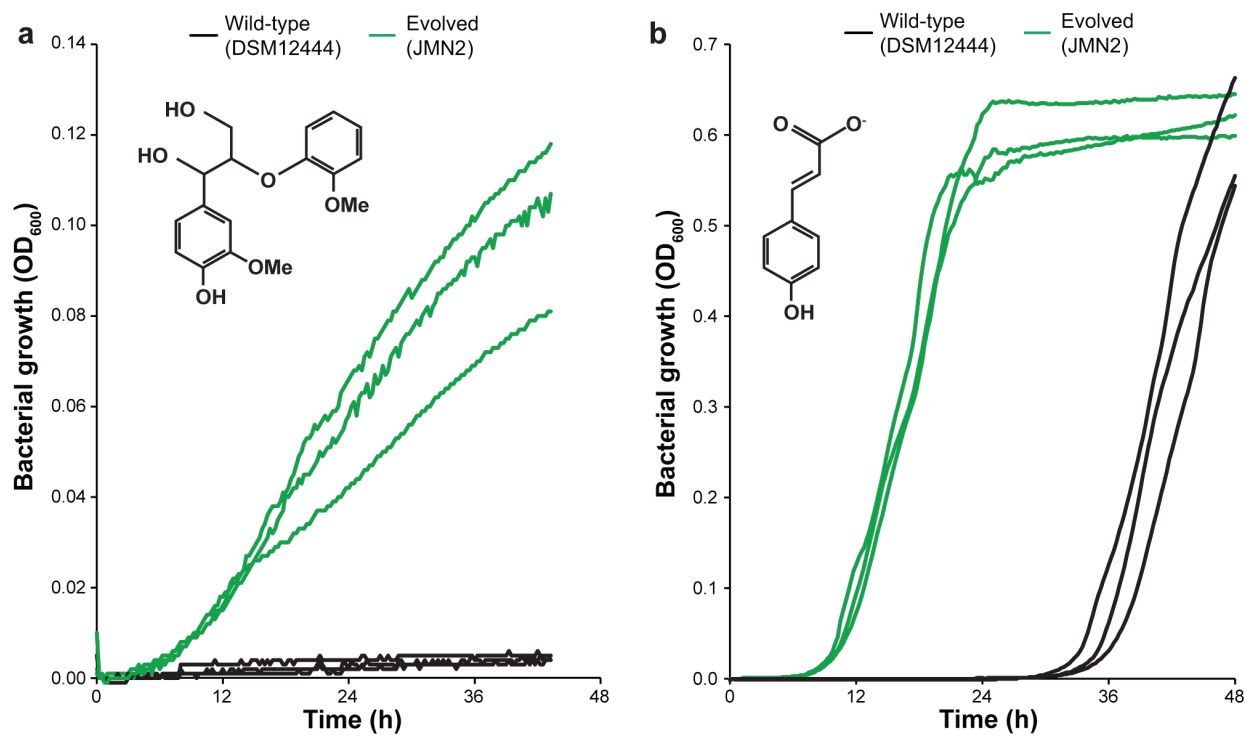
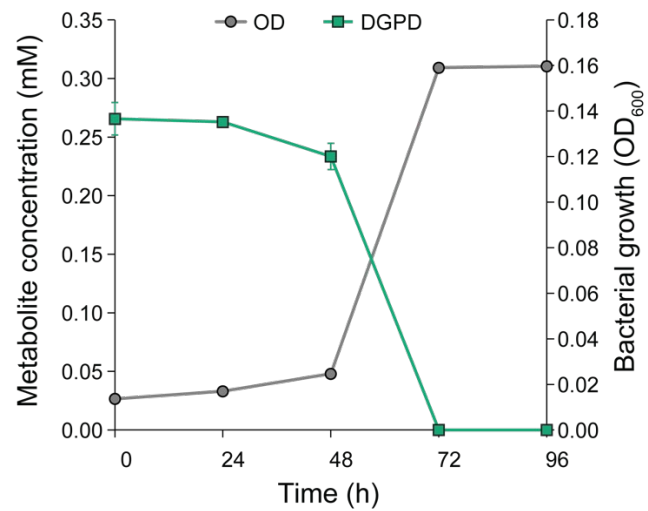


Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD) spectra of compound **14E** (*erythro* isomer).

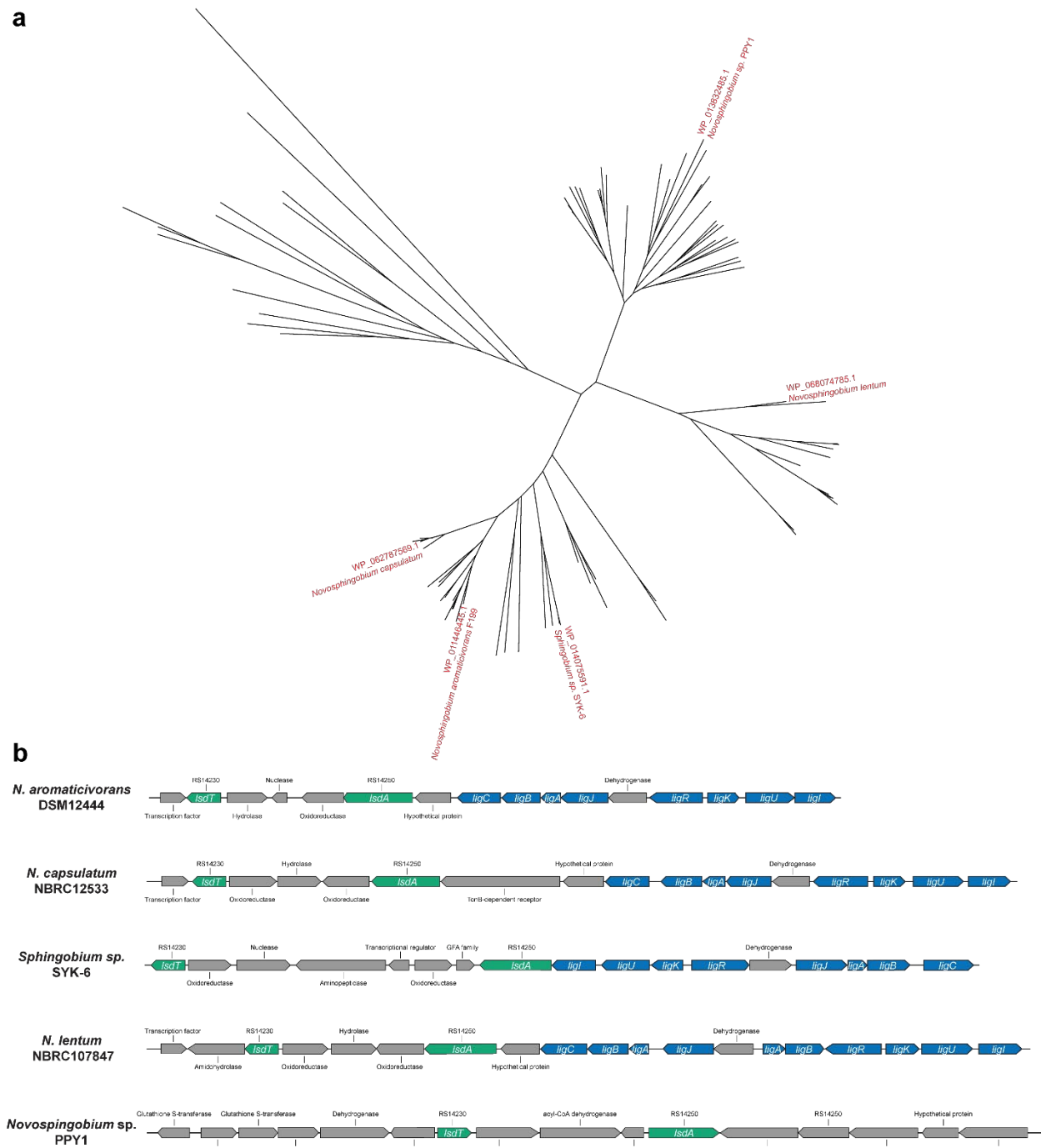




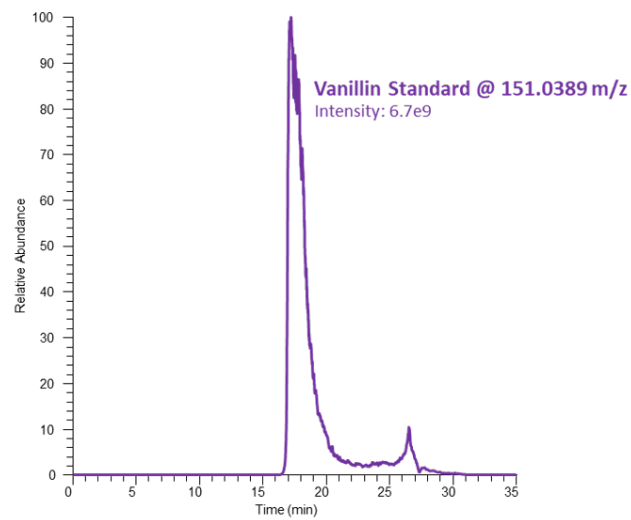
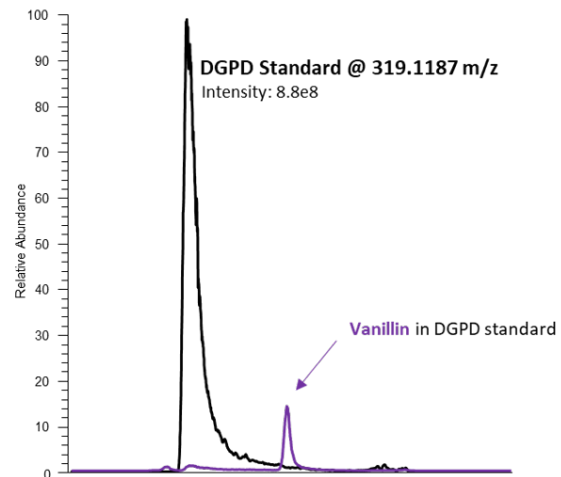
**Figure S18.** Evolved *N. aromaticivorans* strain JMN2 shows improved growth with a variety of lignin-derived aromatic compounds. Wildtype DSM12444 and evolved JMN2 were grown in minimal medium with 1 g/L of either (a) GGE or (b) *p*-coumaric acid as the sole carbon source. Three biological replicates are shown for each strain and medium.



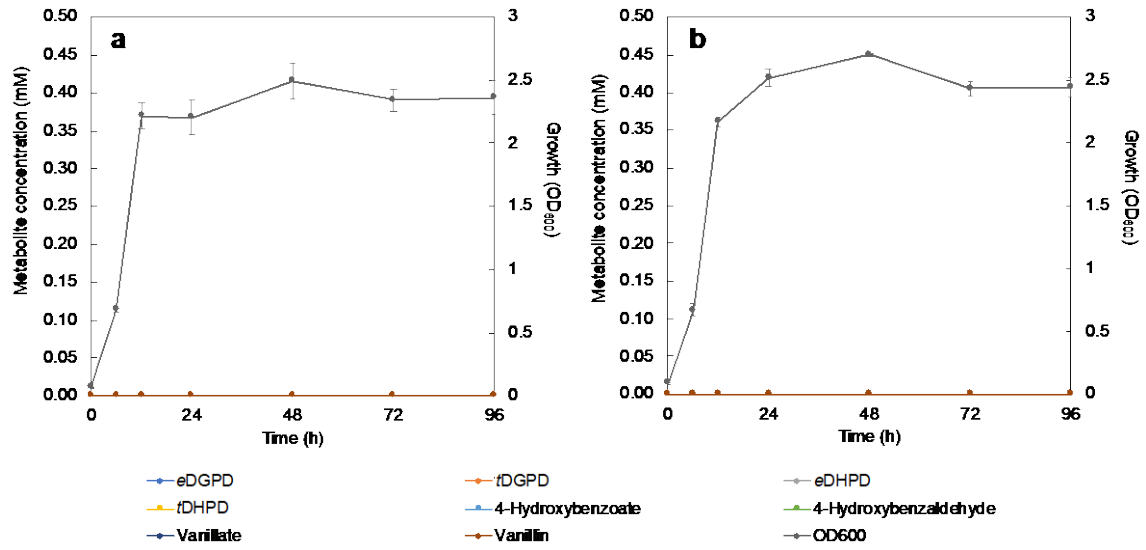
**Figure S19.** In minimal medium, DGPD consumption by JMN2 is growth-associated. Strain JMN2 was grown in minimal medium with DGPD as the sole carbon source. Cultures were assayed every 24 hours for cell growth and residual DGPD concentration. Error bars show one standard deviation, calculated from three biological replicates.



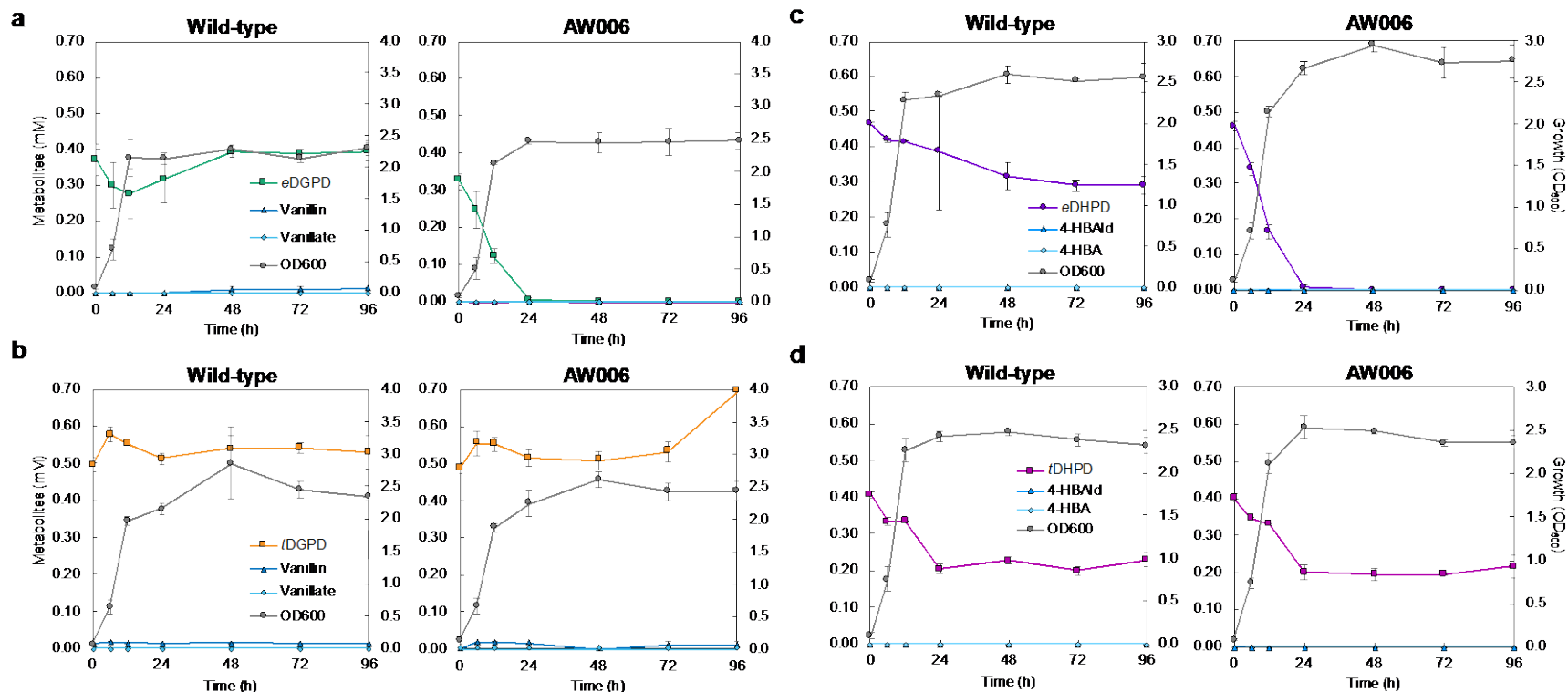
**Figure S20. (a)** Maximum-likelihood phylogenetic tree of *LsdE* sequences. Representative strains from the major branches are highlighted in red and were examined in more detail. **(b)** Genomic arrangement of *lsdE* and *lsdA* in selected genome sequences. Genes for the PCA 4,5-cleavage pathway are shown in blue. *lsdE* was not found in close proximity to *lsdA* or the PCA degradation pathway genes in the fourth cluster of (a).



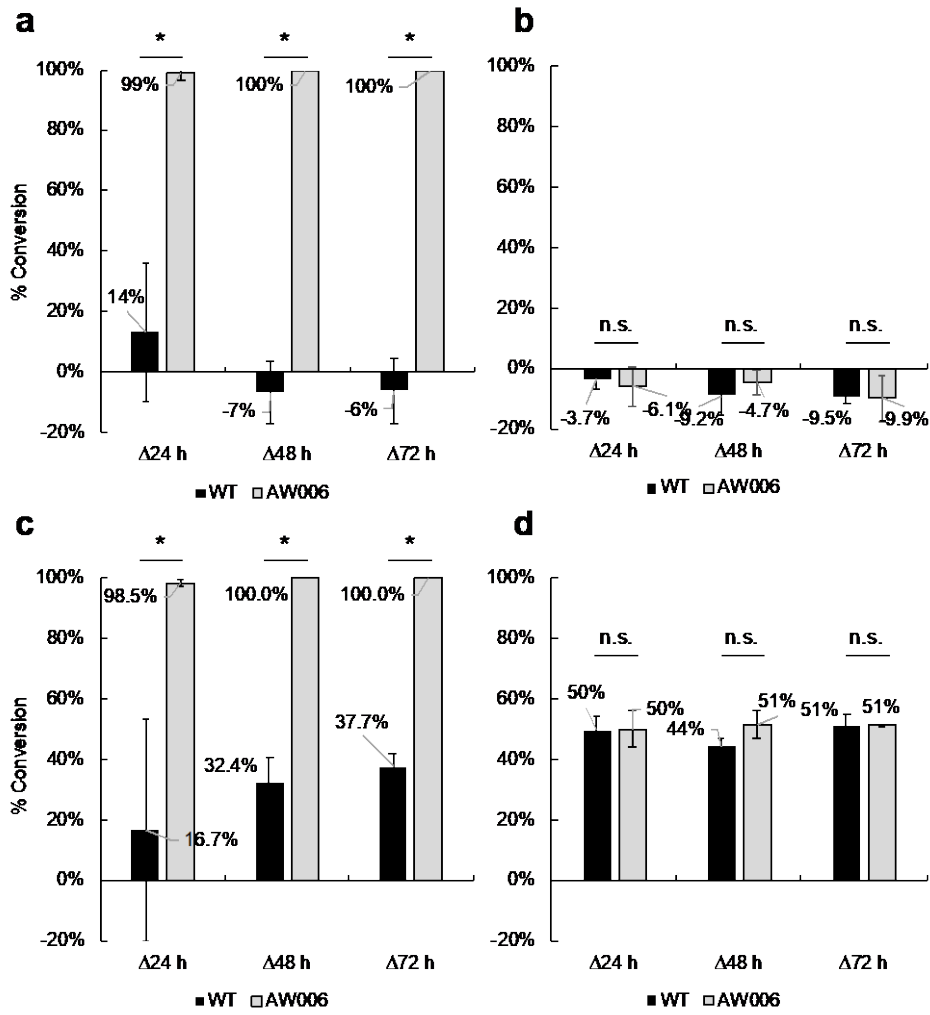
**Figure S21.** LC-MS analysis of DGPD stock identifies trace contamination with vanillin. The DGPD stock used for experiments with *E. coli* lysates expressing heterologous LsdA and LsdE contained small amounts of vanillin before addition of lysate.



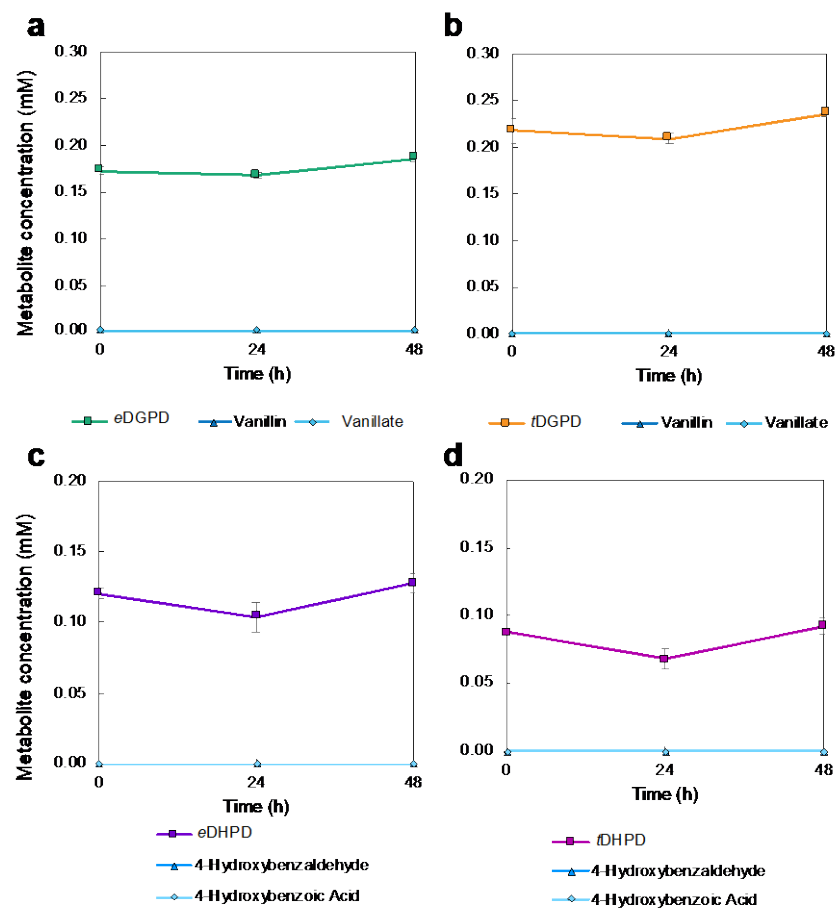
**Figure S22.** Growth of (a) *P. putida* wild-type and (b) AW006 (*P. putida* *fpvA::P<sub>tac</sub>:ltdT:ltdA*) in M9 minimal media supplemented with 20 mM glucose and 2% (v/v) methanol. Metabolite concentrations of all analytes and growth (optical density, 600nm) are plotted. Error bars represent the standard deviation across biological triplicates.



**Figure S23. Metabolite concentration and growth (OD<sub>600</sub>) across the 96 h experiment.** Wild-type *P. putida* or AW006 (*P. putida* *fpvA::P<sub>lac</sub>:RS14230:RS14250*) cultivations were performed in M9 minimal media supplemented with 20 mM glucose and (a) erythro-DGPD (eDGPD), (b) threo-DGPD (tDGPD), (c) erythro-DHPD (eDHPD), or (d) threo-DHPD (tDHPD). Metabolites were quantified from the cultivation supernatant. Error bars represent the standard deviation across biological triplicates. Abbreviations: 4-HBAld, 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde; 4-HBA, 4-hydroxybenzoate; OD600, optical density (600 nm).

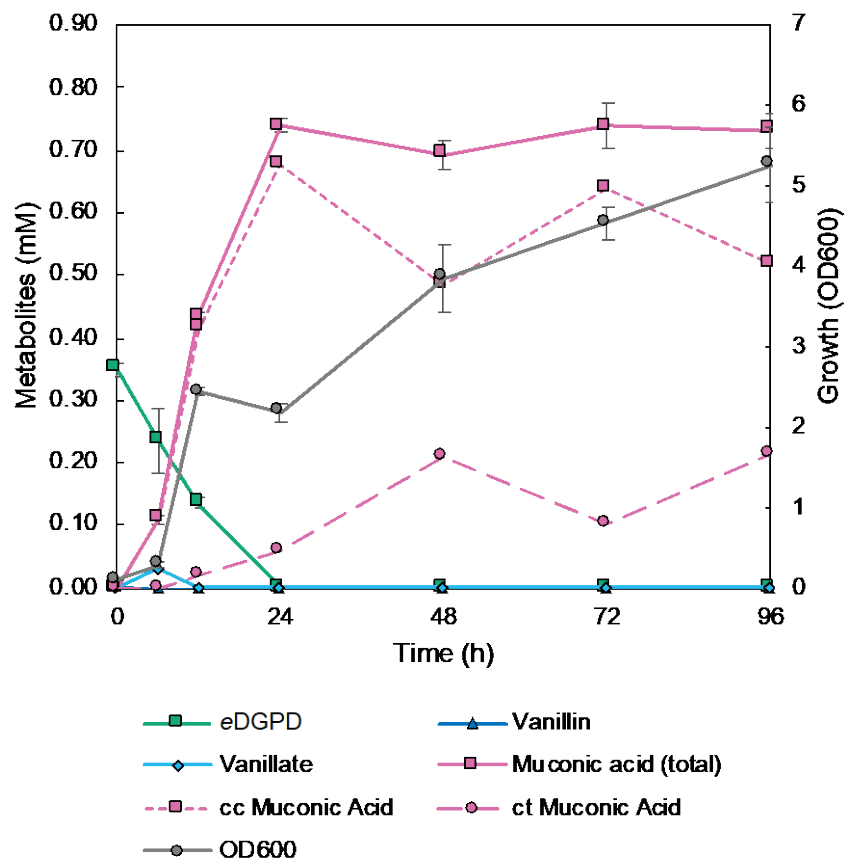


**Figure S24.** Dimer conversion (%) after 24 h (Δ24 h), 48 h (Δ48 h), or 72 h (Δ72 h) for wild-type *P. putida* or AW006 (*P. putida* *fpvA::P<sub>tac</sub>::lsdT::lsdA*) cultivated in M9 minimal medium supplemented with 20 mM glucose and (a) *erythro*-DGPD, (b) *threo*-DGPD, (c) *erythro*-DHPD, or (d) *threo*-DHPD. Error bars represent the standard deviation across biological triplicates. \* indicates  $p \leq 0.05$  and n.s. indicates  $p > 0.05$  from a paired one-tailed Student's *t*-test comparing the percent conversion observed by WT versus AW006 cultivations.



**Figure S25.** Metabolite concentration over time in non-inoculated controls. Cultivations without the addition of cells were performed in M9 minimal media supplemented with 20 mM glucose and (a) *erythro*-DGPD, (b) *threo*-DGPD, (c) *erythro*-DHPD, or (d) *threo*-DHPD. Error bars represent the standard deviation across biological triplicates.





**Figure S26.** Growth and metabolite concentration across 96 h of AW049 (*P. putida* KT2440  $\Delta catRBC::P_{tac}:catA \Delta pcaHG::P_{tac}:aroY::ecdBD \Delta crc::P_{tac}:lsdT::lsdA fpvA::P_{tac}:vanAB$ ) cultivations in M9 minimal media supplemented with 20 mM glucose and 0.35 mM erythro-DGPD (eDGPD). Glucose was fed to 20 mM every 24 h. Metabolites were quantified from the cultivation supernatant. Muconate was quantified as both *cis,cis*- (cc Muconic acid) and *cis,trans*- (ct Muconic acid) muconic acid. Error bars represent the standard deviation across biological triplicates.

## Supplemental Text

**SI Text 1. Dimer synthesis and NMR acquisition details.** See Scheme 1-2 (**Figure S1-S2**) for compound number references.

### General information for synthesis of model compounds

All chemicals and solvents were used without additional purification. Flash chromatography was performed using Teledyne CombiFlash equipped with Teledyne 80 and 120 g prepared column for further purification. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE 400 MHz spectrometer equipped with a 5 mm BBO probe ( $^1\text{H}$  400 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$  100 MHz). Chemical shifts for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra are reported in parts per million (ppm) from tetramethylsilane as a reference of 0 ppm.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra were recorded with a relaxation delay 1.0 s and an acquisition time of 4.09 s with 64 scans. Chemical shifts for  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra are reported in ppm from the solvent as a reference ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ :  $\delta$  77.23 ppm,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ : 29.92 ppm,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ : 49.15 ppm). The acquisition parameters for  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR included a  $90^\circ$  pulse width, a relaxation delay 1.0 s and an acquisition time of 1.36 s with 1024 scan. 2D-NMR spectra [gradient correlation spectroscopy (gCOSY), heteronuclear single quantum coherence (HSQC)] were recorded using standard Bruker implementation.

### Synthesis method for 1,2-di(p-hydroxyphenyl)propane-1,3-diol (compound 7, DHPD)

#### Benzylation (compound 2)

To the solution of 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde (10.0 g, 82.3 mmol) in DMF (5 mL), benzyl bromide (12.0 mL, 98.7 mmol), potassium carbonate (17.1 g, 123.4 mmol) and potassium iodate (1.36 g, 8.23 mmol) were added at room temperature. After stirring for 19.5 hours, the reaction mixture was filtered to remove excess  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ . The reaction mixture was diluted with deionized  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and extracted with ethyl acetate three times. The organic layer was washed with brine two times and then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . A crude oil obtained was recrystallized from ethanol to yield a white powder (compound 2, 13.1 g) with 76.6 mol% yield.

#### Benzylation (compound 4, Figure S3)

Compound 3 was benzyliated in the same method of compound 2. To the solution of methyl 4-hydroxyphenylacetate (compound 3, 3.0 g, 18.1 mmol) in DMF (5 mL), benzyl bromide (2.64 mL, 21.7 mmol), potassium carbonate (3.75 g, 27.2 mmol) and potassium iodate (0.3 g, 1.81 mmol) were added at room temperature. After stirring for 22 hours, the reaction mixture was treated in the same manner as compound 1. The reaction mixture was recrystallized from mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane to obtain a white powder (compound 4, 2.48 g, 56.1 mol%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.29-7.43 (5H, m), 7.19 (2H, d,  $J=8.6\text{Hz}$ , Arom-H), 6.93 (2H, d,  $J=8.6\text{Hz}$ , Arom-H), 5.04 (2H, s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.68 (3H, s,  $\text{COOCH}_3$ ), 3.56 (2H, s, Ha).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.5 (C $\beta$ ), 158.2, 137.2, 130.5, 128.8, 128.1, 127.6, 126.6, 115.2, 70.2 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 52.2 ( $\text{COOCH}_3$ ), 40.5 (Ca) ppm.

#### Coupling (compound 5, Figure S4-5)

To the solution of lithium diisopropylamide (2 M in THF, 3.73 mL, 7.46 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL), benzyliated methyl 4-O-benzylphenylacetate (compound 4, 0.91 g, 3.73 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was added dropwisely for over 15 min at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ . After stirring for 30 min, benzyliated vanillin (compound 2, 0.79 g, 3.73 mmol) was added drop-wise for over 1 hour. After stirring for 2 hours, the reaction solution was heated from  $-78^\circ\text{C}$  to ambient temperature, and quenched by addition of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (50 mL). The reaction mixture was acidified with 1 N HCl, extracted with ethyl acetate three times, washed with brine, and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . A crude oil was purified by a silica gel column to obtain of  $\gamma$ -methyl ester (compound 5) with the *threo* isomer (0.682 g, 39.1 mol%) and the *erythro* isomer (0.283 mg, 16.2 mol%). *Threo* isomer (5T):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.27-7.39 (10H, m), 7.01 (2H, d,  $J=8.7\text{Hz}$ , Arom-H), 6.98 (2H, d,  $J=8.7\text{Hz}$ , Arom-H), 6.78 (2H, d,  $J=8.8\text{Hz}$ , Arom-H), 6.77 (2H, d,  $J=8.8\text{Hz}$ , Arom-H), 5.08 (H, dd,  $J=9.4$ , 3.8Hz, Ha), 4.98 (2H, s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.96 (2H, s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.79 (H, d,  $J=9.4\text{Hz}$ , Hb), 3.71 (3H, s,  $\text{COOCH}_3$ ), 2.92 (H, d,  $J=3.8\text{Hz}$ , OH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  174.4 (C $\gamma$ ), 158.5, 158.3, 137.1, 137.0, 133.5, 129.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.7, 127.6, 115.0, 114.7, 76.4 (Ca), 70.1 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 59.3 (C $\beta$ ), 52.5 ( $\text{COOCH}_3$ ) ppm. *Erythro* isomer (5E):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.17-7.36 (10H, m), 7.18 (4H, dd,  $J=19.2$ , 8.7Hz), 6.85 (4H, dd,  $J=14.0$ , 8.7Hz), 5.11 (H, dd,  $J=7.8$ , 2.1Hz, Ha), 4.98 (2H, s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.97 (2H, s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.71 (H, d,  $J=7.8\text{Hz}$ , Hb), 3.44 (3H, s,  $\text{COOCH}_3$ ), 2.36 (H, d,  $J=2.3\text{Hz}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.2 (C $\gamma$ ), 158.8, 158.7, 137.2, 137.1, 133.6, 130.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.22, 128.16, 128.1, 127.7, 127.3, 115.2, 114.8, 74.9 (Ca), 70.2 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 70.1 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 59.1 (C $\beta$ ), 52.2 ( $\text{COOCH}_3$ ) ppm.

#### Reduction (compound 6, Figure S6-7)

To a solution of the  $\gamma$ -methyl ester (compound 5T, *threo* isomer, 0.62 mg, 1.32 mmol) in anhydrous dichloromethane (15 mL), DIBAL in DCM (5.3 mL, 5.3 mmol) was added drop-wise at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . After stirring for 4 hours at the same temperature, deionized  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL) was added to quench the reaction. The reaction mixture was gelated by acidification with saturated citric acid. After dilution with deionized  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (30 mL), the solution was extracted with ethyl acetate (50 mL) three times. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . A crude oil was recrystallized from mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane to obtain a white powder (compound 6T, *threo* isomer, 0.365 g, 62.6 mol%). The *erythro* isomer of compound 5E was reduced in the same way to obtain a white crystal with 92.1 mol% yield. *Threo* isomer (6T):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ )  $\delta$  7.20-7.36 (10H, m), 6.91-7.03 (4H, m, Arom-H), 6.69-6.74 (4H, m, Arom-H), 4.93 (2H, s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.92 (2H, s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.89 (H, dd,  $J=8.8$ , 3.2Hz, Ha), 4.00 (H, m, H $\gamma$ ), 3.79 (H, m, H $\gamma$ ), 2.98 (H, m, H $\beta$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ )  $\delta$  158.7, 158.3, 138.6, 138.5, 137.6, 133.9, 130.7, 129.3, 129.0, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 115.1, 114.8, 78.4 (Ca), 70.3 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 66.6 (C $\gamma$ ), 55.4 (C $\beta$ ) ppm. *Erythro* isomer (6E):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.23-7.37 (10H, m), 7.06-7.11 (4H, m, Arom-H), 6.83-6.89 (4H, m, Arom-H), 4.98 (4H, s,  $2\times\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.83 (H, d,  $J=7.2\text{Hz}$ , Ha), 3.63 (2H, m, H $\gamma$ ), 3.01 (H, dt,  $J=7.2$ , 6.6Hz, H $\beta$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  158.7, 158.4, 137.2, 137.1, 134.7, 131.0, 130.3, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 127.7, 127.6, 115.3, 115.0, 75.7 (Ca), 70.3 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 64.5 (C $\gamma$ ), 55.2 (C $\beta$ ) ppm.

#### Deprotection (compound 7, DHPD, Figure S8-9)

To the solution of compound 6T- *threo* (108 mg, 0.245 mmol) in 3 mL of methanol/THF (1:1, v/v), 10% Pd-C (72 mg) was added and stirred for 6 hours under  $\text{H}_2$  atmosphere. The reaction mixture was filtered, and the filtrate was dried to obtain a white powder (compound 7T, 0.06 g, 94.0 mol%). To the solution of compound 6E- *erythro* (0.2 g, 0.455 mmol) in 5 mL of methanol/THF (1:1, v/v), 10% Pd-C (80 mg) was added and stirred for 3 hours under  $\text{H}_2$  atmosphere to obtain white powder (compound 7E, 0.0669 g, 56.6 mol%). *Threo* isomer (7T):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ )  $\delta$  6.85 (2H, d,  $J=8.5\text{Hz}$ , Arom-H), 6.74 (2H, d,  $J=8.5\text{Hz}$ , Arom-H), 6.46-6.50 (4H, m, Arom-H), 4.76 (H, d,  $J=8.8\text{Hz}$ , Ha), 3.95 (H, dd,  $J=10.8$ , 7.5Hz, H $\gamma$ ), 3.72 (H, dd,  $J=10.8$ , 5.2Hz, H $\gamma$ ), 2.88 (H, m, H $\beta$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ )  $\delta$  157.1 (C4), 156.6 (C4'), 135.8 (C1), 132.0 (C1'), 130.5 (C2',6'), 128.9 (C2,6), 115.7 (C3',5'), 115.3 (C3,5), 78.8 (Ca), 66.8 (C $\gamma$ ), 55.3 (C $\beta$ ) ppm. *Erythro* isomer (7E):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400

MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  7.00 (2H, d,  $J=8.5$ Hz, Arom-H), 6.98 (2H, d,  $J=8.6$ Hz, Arom-H), 6.68 (2H, d,  $J=8.6$ Hz, Arom-H), 6.67 (2H, d,  $J=8.6$ Hz, Arom-H), 4.87 (H, d,  $J=6.3$ Hz, H $\alpha$ ), 3.75 (H, dd,  $J=10.8, 6.2$ Hz, H $\gamma$ ), 3.61 (H, dd,  $J=10.8, 7.4$ Hz, H $\gamma$ ), 2.93 (H, dt,  $J=7.4, 6.5$ Hz, H $\beta$ ). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  157.7 (C4), 157.1 (C4'), 135.9 (C1), 132.0 (C1'), 131.6 (C2',6'), 129.0 (C2,6), 115.9 (C3',5'), 115.8 (C3,5), 75.7 (C $\alpha$ ), 64.7 (C $\gamma$ ), 56.5 (C $\beta$ ) ppm.

#### Synthesis method for 1,2-diguaiacylpropane-1,3-diol (compound 14, DGPD)

##### Benzylation (compound 9)

To the solution of vanillin (6.5 g, 42.7 mmol) in DMF (7 mL), benzyl bromide (6.16 mL, 51.3 mmol), potassium carbonate (8.86 g, 64.1 mmol) and potassium iodate (0.71 g, 4.27 mmol) were added at room temperature. After stirring for 20 hours, the reaction mixture was treated with the same purification protocol for compound 1 to yield white crystals (compound 9, 7.94 g) in a 76.9 mol% yield.

##### Methyl ester (compound 10, Figure S10)

To the solution of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl acetic acid (2.0 g, 10.8 mmol) in methanol (25 mL), acetyl chloride (0.92 mL, 12.9 mmol) and 96% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (1.5 mL) were added at room temperature. After refluxing for 18 hours, the reaction mixture was diluted with deionized H<sub>2</sub>O (60 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (60 mL) four times. The combined ethyl acetate layer was washed with brine and then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. A crude oil was recrystallized from ethanol/hexane (1:1, v/v) to obtain a white powder (compound 10, 2.1 g, 97.5 mol%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.72-6.84 (3H, m), 5.82 (1H, s, OH), 3.82 (3H, s, OMe), 3.66 (3H, s, COOCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.53 (2H, s, H $\alpha$ ). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.6 (C $\beta$ ), 146.7, 144.9, 125.8, 122.2, 114.6, 111.9, 55.9 (OMe), 52.1 (COOCH<sub>3</sub>), 40.8 (C $\alpha$ ) ppm.

##### Benzylation (compound 11, Figure S11)

Compound 10 was benzylated in the same method of compound 2. To the solution of methyl homovanillate (compound 10, 2.0 g, 10.3 mmol) in DMF (5 mL), benzyl bromide (1.51 mL, 12.4 mmol), potassium carbonate (2.14 g, 15.5 mmol) and potassium iodate (0.17 g, 1.03 mmol) were added at room temperature. After stirring for 21 hours, the reaction mixture was treated in the same manner as compound 1. The reaction mixture was recrystallized from ethanol to obtain a white powder (compound 11, 2.03 g, 68.5 mol%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.17-7.36 (5H, m), 6.65-6.76 (3H, m, Arom-H), 5.06 (2H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.81 (3H, s, OMe), 3.61 (3H, s, COOCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.47 (2H, s, H $\alpha$ ). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.4 (C $\beta$ ), 149.8, 147.5, 137.4, 128.7, 128.0, 127.4, 127.2, 121.5, 114.2, 113.1, 71.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 56.2 (OMe), 52.2 (COOCH<sub>3</sub>), 40.9 (C $\alpha$ ) ppm.

##### Coupling (compound 12, Figure S12-13)

To the solution of lithium diisopropylamide (2 M in THF, 5.4 mL, 10.8 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL), benzylated methyl homovanillate (compound 11, 1.03 g, 3.6 mmol) in anhydrous THF (13 mL) was added drop-wise for over 1 hour at -78°C. After stirring for 1 hour, benzylated vanillin (compound 9, 1.05 g, 4.32 mmol) in anhydrous THF (13 mL) was added drop-wise for over 1 hour. After 27 hours of stirring, the reaction solution was heated from -78°C to room temperature, and quenched by addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (80 mL). The reaction mixture was acidified with 1 N HCl, extracted with ethyl acetate three times, washed with brine, and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. A crude oil was purified by flash chromatography to obtain of  $\gamma$ -methyl ester (compound 12) with *threo* isomer (0.630 g, 33.1 mol%) and *erythro* isomer (0.274 g, 14.4 mol%). *Threo* isomer (12T): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO)  $\delta$  7.14-7.31 (10H, m), 6.51-6.69 (6H, m, Arom-H), 4.99 (H, dd,  $J=10.2, 4.1$ Hz, H $\alpha$ ), 4.88 (4H, s, 2xCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.66 (H, d,  $J=10.2$ Hz, H $\beta$ ), 3.56 (3H, s, OMe), 3.55 (3H, s, OMe), 3.54 (3H, s, COOCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO)  $\delta$  172.6 (C $\gamma$ ), 149.1, 149.0, 147.2, 147.1, 137.3, 137.2, 135.3, 128.6, 127.8, 127.7, 127.12, 127.09, 127.04, 127.03, 120.5, 118.8, 113.3, 113.0, 112.8, 110.7, 75.6 (C $\alpha$ ), 69.98 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 69.95 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 59.3 (C $\beta$ ), 54.8 (OMe), 54.7 (OMe), 50.5 (COOCH<sub>3</sub>) ppm. *Erythro* isomer (12E): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.18-7.37 (10H, m), 6.71-6.81 (6H, m, Arom-H), 5.09 (H, dd,  $J=7.6, 1.4$ Hz, H $\alpha$ ), 5.07 (2H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.06 (2H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.78 (3H, s, OMe), 3.73 (3H, s, OMe), 3.67 (H, d,  $J=7.6$ Hz, H $\beta$ ), 3.46 (3H, s, COOCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.2 (C $\gamma$ ), 149.9, 149.8, 148.3, 148.0, 137.4, 137.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.5, 127.4, 121.7, 119.2, 114.1, 114.0, 112.9, 110.6, 75.1 (C $\alpha$ ), 71.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 71.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 59.4 (C $\beta$ ), 56.3 (OMe), 56.2 (OMe), 52.2 (COOCH<sub>3</sub>) ppm.

##### Reduction (compound 13, Figure S14-15)

To the solution of LAH (229 mg, 5.73 mmol) in THF (5 mL), a solution of the  $\gamma$ -methyl ester (compound 12T, *threo* isomer, 381 mg, 0.722 mmol) in anhydrous THF (14 mL), was added drop-wise at 0°C for over 40 min. After stirring for 4 hours at the same temperature, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. Remaining LAH was quenched by adding deionized H<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL). After acidification with 1 N HCl, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (30 mL) four times. The combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. A crude oil was purified by preparative TLC with 5% acetone/DCM to obtain a white powder (compound 13T, *threo* isomer, 197 mg, 55.9 mol%). To a solution of the  $\gamma$ -methyl ester (compound 12E, *erythro* isomer, 104 mg, 0.196 mmol) in anhydrous DCM (15 mL), DIBAL in DCM (1.88 mL, 1.88 mmol) was added drop-wise at 0°C for over 30 min. After stirring for 19.5 hours at the same temperature, deionized H<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) was added to quench the reaction. The reaction mixture was gelled. The gel status was changed to liquid solution by acidification with saturated citric acid. The solution was extracted with ethyl acetate (30 mL) four times. Combined organic layer was washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. A crude oil was purified by preparative TLC with 5% acetone/DCM to obtain a white powder (compound 13E, *erythro* isomer, 25.9 mg, 27.0 mol%). *Threo* isomer (13T): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.17-7.31 (10H, m), 6.37-6.63 (6H, m, Arom-H), 4.97 (2H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.96 (2H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.77 (H, d,  $J=8.7$ Hz, H $\alpha$ ), 4.03 (H, m, H $\gamma$ ), 3.83 (H, dd,  $J=10.9, 4.4$ Hz, H $\gamma$ ), 3.63 (3H, s, OMe), 3.62 (3H, s, OMe), 2.92 (H, dt,  $J=8.1, 4.7$ Hz, H $\beta$ ). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.4, 148.3, 146.4, 146.0, 136.2, 136.1, 135.1, 131.4, 127.5, 126.8, 126.2, 119.3, 117.8, 113.0, 112.5, 111.8, 109.3, 78.3 (C $\alpha$ ), 70.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 69.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 65.3 (C $\gamma$ ), 55.0 (OMe), 54.9 (OMe), 53.5 (C $\beta$ ) ppm. *Erythro* isomer (13E): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.17-7.35 (10H, m), 6.57-6.74 (6H, m, Arom-H), 5.03 (4H, s, 2xCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.81 (H, d,  $J=6.6$ Hz, H $\alpha$ ), 3.70 (3H, s, OMe), 3.67 (3H, s, OMe), 3.66-3.70 (H, m, H $\gamma$ ), 3.63 (H, dd,  $J=10.9, 6.6$ Hz, H $\gamma$ ), 2.97 (H, t,  $J=6.6$ Hz, H $\beta$ ). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.6, 148.5, 146.7, 146.5, 136.2, 136.1, 134.0, 130.4, 127.51, 127.5, 126.8, 126.2, 120.0, 117.9, 113.1, 112.7, 112.1, 109.3, 74.7 (C $\alpha$ ), 70.04 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 70.03 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 63.1 (C $\gamma$ ), 55.0 (OMe), 54.9 (OMe), 54.0 (C $\beta$ ) ppm.

##### Deprotection (compound 14, DGPD, Figure S16-17)

To the solution of compound 13T-*threo* (196 mg, 0.392 mmol) in 5 mL of methanol, 10% Pd-C (80 mg) was added and stirred 4.5 hours under H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction mixture was filtered, and the filtrate was dried to obtain a crude oil. The mixture was purified by preparative TLC developed with ethyl acetate/hexane (2:1, v/v) to obtain a white powder (compound 14T, 118 mg, 94.4 mol%). To the solution of compound 13E-*erythro* (112 mg, 0.224 mmol) in 12 mL of methanol/THF (1:1, v/v), 10% Pd-C (80 mg) was added and stirred for 6 hours under H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere to

obtain a crude oil. The crude oil was purified by preparative TLC developed with ethyl acetate to obtain a syrup (compound **14E**, 46.0 mg, 64.0 mol%). *Threo* isomer (**14T**): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 6.47-6.62 (6H, m, Arom-H), 4.79 (H, d, *J*=8.7Hz, H<sub>α</sub>), 4.09 (H, dd, *J*=10.9, 6.7Hz, H<sub>γ</sub>), 3.90 (H, dd, *J*=10.8, 6.6Hz, H<sub>γ</sub>), 3.68 (3H, s, OMe), 3.67 (3H, s, OMe), 2.98 (H, dt, *J*=8.7, 6.7Hz, H<sub>β</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 148.5 (C3), 148.4 (C3'), 146.7 (C4), 146.2 (C4'), 136.3 (C1), 132.8 (C1'), 122.6 (C6'), 120.8 (C6), 115.9 (C5'), 115.5 (C5), 114.4 (C2'), 112.2 (C2), 78.5 (C<sub>α</sub>), 65.9 (C<sub>γ</sub>), 56.53 (C<sub>β</sub>), 56.47 (OMe), 56.4 (OMe) ppm. *Erythro* isomer (**14E**): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 6.60-6.71 (6H, m, Arom-H), 4.92 (H, d, *J*=5.7Hz, H<sub>α</sub>), 3.84 (H, dd, *J*=10.8, 6.6Hz, H<sub>γ</sub>), 3.75 (3H, s, OMe), 3.69 (3H, s, OMe), 3.69 (H, dd, *J*=10.8, 6.6Hz, H<sub>γ</sub>), 2.91 (H, dt, *J*=6.7, 5.7Hz, H<sub>β</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 148.6 (C3), 148.5 (C3'), 146.7 (C4), 146.4 (C4'), 136.6 (C1), 132.4 (C1'), 123.3 (C6'), 120.5 (C6), 115.8 (C5'), 115.6 (C5), 114.8 (C2'), 111.8 (C2), 75.7 (C<sub>α</sub>), 64.6 (C<sub>γ</sub>), 56.9 (C<sub>β</sub>), 56.5 (OMe), 56.4 (OMe) ppm.

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